NATIONAL
SOCCER
MONTHLY

$1·00
SEPTEMBER 1985
No. 5

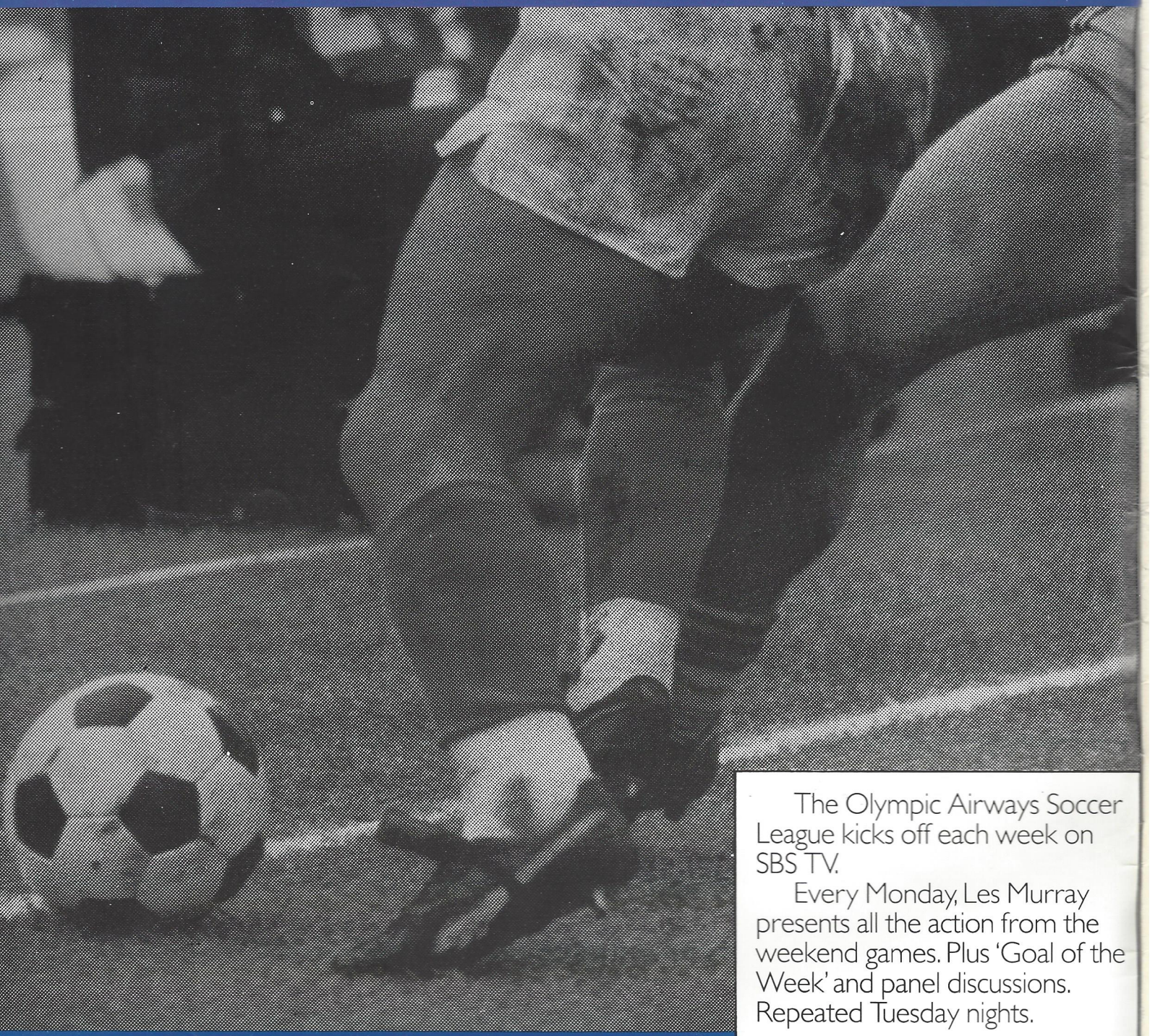
CLUB FEATURE
• APIA LEICHHARDT

1985 CUP FINAL

PLUS YOUTH TEAM IN RUSSIA

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS
The International Airline of Greece

Australian Soccer



The Olympic Airways Soccer League kicks off each week on SBS TV.

Every Monday, Les Murray presents all the action from the weekend games. Plus 'Goal of the Week' and panel discussions. Repeated Tuesday nights.

6pm Monday

SBS

Bringing the world back home

J.W.T. ENTERPRISE 652P343 N.S.L.

CONTENTS

Kodak Kids *25*

CCCP 85

Australian Youth Team *26*

Competiton *38*

From the Manager's Desk **4**
Eddie Krncevic — Socceroo Probable? **7**

HIGH HOPES DASHED
Adelaide's Forgettable Season **8**

IT'S FINALS TIME!
A Round-up of Top Teams — North and South **10**

DON'T IGNORE Q'LAND
A Force to be Reckoned With **18**
Results and Tables **20**

KODAK CUP — CHINA
How the Teams Fared **25**

YOUTH TEAM
Now for Russia! **26**

NEWS AND VIEWS
Chris Bambridge — Craig Foster — Where are the Spectators? **28**

SOCCER STATION
Radio 3EA — Your Station **40**

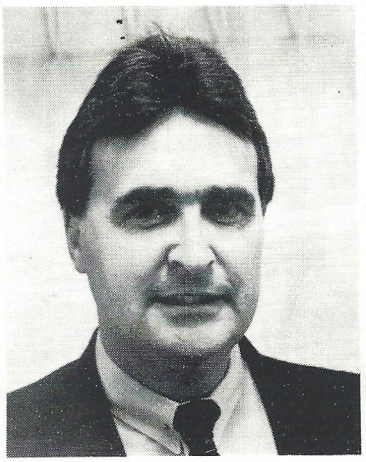
APIA LEICHHARDT
1986 — Resurgence of a Sleeping Giant? **32**

NATIONAL CUP FINAL
St. George Stadium, August 11 ..... **34**

COMPETITION
Win a Socceroo-Autographed Mitre Ball **38**

COVER: Preston's stalwart defender George McMillan fends off a West Adelaide attack.

POOLS
SIX-38
JACKPOTS UNTIL SOMEBODY WINS



FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK...

The Olympic Airways Soccer League Executive met on Sunday, August 11, to hear a complaint from Apia Leichhardt regarding the playing of an ineligible player.

Apia appealed against the decision of the League Tribunal in relation to their Round 17 match against Marconi on Sunday, June 30.

Apia alleged Marconi had fielded a player who had accumulated 12 penalty points and therefore should have been suspended for that match.

The Executive found that Marconi was aware that Tony Henderson had incurred 11 penalty points prior to the club's match against Sydney City on Saturday, June 29.

During that match, Henderson received a yellow card and, because the minimum number of points a yellow card attracts is one, Henderson therefore reached a minimum of 12 points.

In accordance with League regulations, he was required to serve a one-match suspension in the next match in which his club participated.

That was the fixture against Apia Leichhardt on Sunday, June 30, and the participation of Henderson in that match constituted the fielding of an ineligible player.

The OASL Executive decided that the points be awarded to Apia Leichhardt and that the four goals scored by Marconi be deducted, leaving a recorded scoreline of 0-0.

★ ★ ★

September will be a big month for soccer fans, with the conclusion of the OASL championship, the commencement of Australia's World cup campaign and the staging of the three match series of internationals against China.

There is also plenty of interest off the field with the announcement of the winners of Australia's major individual awards.

The two prestige player awards are the Rothmans Medal and the OASL — Australian Soccer Press Association Player of the Year.

This is the first year Rothmans are presenting their famous gold medal to the Best and Fairest player in Australia's premier club competition.

Rothmans have secured the services of former British player and manager Terry Neill as special guest for the presentation dinner, to be held at Sydney's Sheraton-Wentworth Hotel on Friday, September 13.

Neill played 59 full internationals for Northern Ireland during his distinguished career.

In 1970, after 10 years at Arsenal, he joined Hull City as player-manager, and continued playing for his country until 1973.

From Hull he moved on to manage Tottenham Hotspur in First Division and later returned to his former club Arsenal.

From 1978 to 1980, Arsenal appeared in three consecutive FA Cup Finals under Neill, winning once in 1979.

After several seasons with the famous English club, Neill was replaced by club coach Don Howe midway through the 1983-84 season.

During his time at Arsenal, Neill signed international stars like Pat Jennings, Kenny Sansom, Tony Woodcock and, in his last season with the club Charlie Nicholas.

Neill's expert opinions on the game will be eagerly sought during his stay in Australia and his presence should ensure that the inaugural OASL Rothmans Medal presentation is a memorable evening.

The Rothmans Medal will be preceded by the OASL-ASPA awards four days earlier.

The 1985 Player of the Year, to be decided by the weekly votes of press writers throughout the country, will receive the valuable Wedgwood Bowl.

NATIONAL SOCCER MONTHLY

Publisher
Stefan Kamasz

Editorial Management
Les Shorrock

Artwork and Design
New Life Printery Pty. Ltd.

Photographers
Les Shorrock
Geoff Ampt

Contributors
Bob Brian
Allan Crisp
Peter Desira
Brad Earl
Geoff Stead
Brad Earl

Advertising
Peter Leney

Advertising Enquiries:
Mrs Lyn Freeman
Tel. (02) 29-7025

National Soccer Monthly is a publication of the Olympic Airways National Soccer League of Australia, 36-38 Clarence St, Sydney 2000. Printed by New Life Printery Pty. Ltd., 61-65 Euston Rd, Alexandria, NSW. Tel. (02) 516-1277.

The exclusive choice of AUSTRALIAN SOCCER FEDERATION NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE and ENGLISH and SCOTTISH LEAGUES

mitre sports balls

FOR THOSE WHO TAKE THEIR SPORT SERIOUSLY

Last year's winner was Sergio Melta of Adelaide City, with other well-known past recipients being Joe Watson, Peter Katholos, Kenny Boden and Jimmy Rooney.

Other awards to be announced on the night include the outstanding Under 21 player, coach and referee of the 1985 season.

It will be interesting to see if anyone can end the four-year domination of Eddie Thomson and Frank Arok in the Coach of the Year award.

★ ★ ★

It's good to see the two Queensland clubs spreading the OASL gospel throughout the Sunshine State.

Brisbane Lions took their top side to the Central Queensland city of Rockhampton earlier this month in what was a great promotional exercise for the code.

The match drew a huge crowd, with Lions beating the Central Queensland representative team 6-0.

After the match, Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith invited one local youth player, Lindsay Dean to trial with the club next year.

In June, Brisbane City played their OASL match against Heidelberg at the new Carrara Complex at Southport on the Gold Coast.

★ ★ ★

The League office received a telephone call from former Manchester United defender Francis Burns, who is seeking a coaching position in Australia.

Burns, who featured prominently for the Red Devils in the late 1960s and early 1970s under Sir Matt Busby, was a member of Manchester United's 1968 European Cup winning side. He also won international honours with Scotland.

After United he worked under Lawrie McMenemy at Southampton and with former Manchester United teammates Bobby Charlton and Nobby Stiles at Preston North End.

A fully qualified coach, Burns told us how much he enjoyed Manchester United's tour of Australia in 1967.

His contact with the League was initiated through a discussion he had with none other than the former Sydney Olympic and South Melbourne coach Tommy Docherty.

★ ★ ★

As this is the final issue of National Soccer Monthly for 1985, my thanks go to readers for their support in helping to make this publication a success.

Judging by the number of readers' letters we've received and the favourable reaction to our contests, the magazine has been warmly received by the soccer public. Thanks also to our advertisers and sponsors who have helped make National Soccer Monthly a success in it's initial year.

The question of relegation has been in the news in recent months, creating much confusion.

For the record the A.S.F. policy on relegation and promotion is as follows:

(1) The bottom placed team under the jurisdiction of the N.S.W. and Victorian Soccer Federations will be relegated, regardless of whether they finish in bottom position or not.

(2) The N.S.W. and Victorian State League Premiers may apply to join the League and subject to meeting the criteria will be promoted.

(3) In the event that the State League Premier does not apply or fails to meet the criteria, the second placed team may apply and, subject to meeting the criteria will be promoted.

(4) In the event that the second placed team does not apply or fails to meet the criteria, the relegated team may apply, and subject to meeting the criteria will be reinstated.

(5) The club finishing twelfth, not being a team from within the N.S.W. or Victorian Soccer Federations, (i.e. N.N.S.W.S.F., A.C.T.S.F., S.A.S.F., Q.S.F.) will be relegated.

(6) The State League Premier club from that State may apply to join the League and subject to meeting the criteria, will be promoted.

(7) In the event that the State League Premier does not apply or fails to meet the criteria, the second placed team may apply and, subject to meeting the criteria, will be promoted.

(8) In the event that the second placed team does not apply or fails to meet the criteria, the relegated team may apply, and subject to meeting the criteria will be reinstated.

In other words the bottom placed Victorian club can finish eighth and still be relegated in addition to the twelfth club as can the bottom New South Wales club finishing tenth.

Confused? I can't see why!

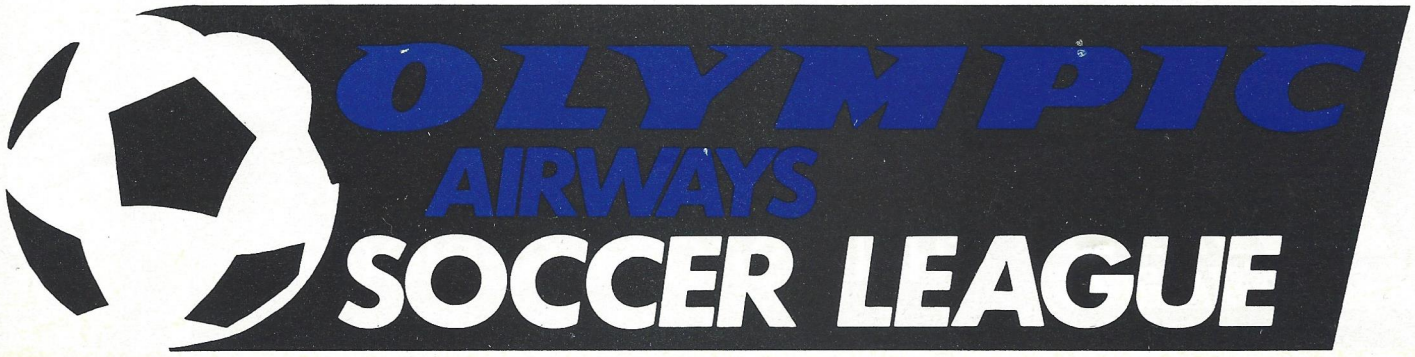
See you in 1986.

— Stefan Kamasz

The winner of our June edition quiz which asked *"What other sport was derived from soccer and resulted in another form of football? Where and when?* was John Petiquin of Port Kembla, N.S.W. 2505.

Of course the answer was: Rugby, in 1823, in England by Walter Webb Ellis.

John wins a Mitre Sports Bag and Ball for his answer.



THE MULTIPLEX

THE MOST FAMOUS SOCCER BALL IN THE WORLD

NOW WITH 2 YEAR GUARANTEE

mitre®
sports balls

OFFICIAL BALL ENDORSED BY NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

MITRE SPORTS—DIVISION OF
OVERSEAS INDENTS PTY LIMITED
• SYDNEY • MELBOURNE • BRISBANE • ADELAIDE

mitre® sports balls

FOR THOSE WHO TAKE THEIR SPORT SERIOUSLY

EDDIE KRNCEVIC

Eddie Krncevic, as Marconi fans remember him. Krncevic, who guested recently for Sydney Croatia, scored 17 goals in 33 games for Australia before leaving for Europe in 1982. He now plays for Cercle Brugge of Brussels, but has said that he will make himself available for the Socceroos and coach Frank Arok now has him pencilled in on his list of probables.

ADELAID
FORGE

Murderous violence and horrific disasters were part and parcel of the overseas soccer football scene this year.

1985 also was a year which SA's National Soccer League clubs Adelaide City and West Adelaide will not cherish.

Both began the season with customary gusto, amid confident predictions of recapturing past glories.

West Adelaide had high hopes of repeating its 1978 title-winning effort, while Adelaide City entered the fray after a highly successful Ampol Cup campaign.

City cantered through that summer series by producing a scintillating brand of football that ranked with its fine form of 1977.

But the slip betwixt the cup and the lip saw both proud clubs lose face.

Good intentions soured as brave experiments floundered in both camps.

West, extremely viable ater the judicious sale of its North Terrace clubrooms, nevertheless decided to keep it's money in the bank and rely on it's youngsters rather than buy extensively.

West toyed with the idea of bringing out Frank Worthington as a short term guest player, but the scheme eventually folded.

So West left the overseas market untapped, but it did acquire outstanding local signings, Gary Price from Adelaide Croatia, Alan Scott from Azzurri and Mike Genikas from Birkalla.

The scenario at City was remarkably similar. The idea of importing players was explored through overseas contacts, but finally only Colin McAdam of Glasgow Rangers was signed, albeit too late.

ADELAIDE CITY: *Back row (l to r):* Brian Northcote, Adam Santrac, Fortunato Costanzo, Willie McNally, Neville Flounders, Charlie Villani, Michael Donnelly. *Front row:* Sergio Melta, Peter Rankin, Joe Mullen, Bugsy Nyskohus, Joe Cecere, Stephen Maxwell.

E'S TTABLE SEASON

By ALLAN CRISP

However, only Santract commanded a regular NSL berth, while inexplicably, Paul Shillabeer, Pat DeVita and Robbie Alberton were released to State league clubs.

Both teams harboured ambitions of contesting the top five play-offs, but both rounded off the season by staving off relegation.

Despite the disappointments, City and West still managed to engineer their share of upsets over favoured opponents.

And consistently excellent performances from respective captain's Graham Honeyman (West) and Bugsy Nyskohus (City) saw both veterans polling high in national and local best player awards.

City and West have indicated that they have benefitted by the mistakes of 1985 and have declared that they will buy new players for next season.

Vibes at City suggest that Edmund Kreft will not continue as coach.

Equally strong are suggestions that former City player and Beograd coach Zoran Matic will be Kreft's successor.

Neil McGachey, who confronted immense personal tragedy to continue as West coach, will review his position next year.

Meanwhile, McGachey has accepted the responsibility of going overseas to search for suitable 1986 recruits.

City restricted it's buying to the local market and it acquired Rothmans Medallist Adrian Santract from Beograd-Woodville, Mike Donnelly of Azzurri and Fortu Costanzo from Salisbury United.

WEST ADELAIDE: *Back row (l to r):* Les Matiscsak, Tim Brown, Chris Manou, Mike Genakis, Gary Sproul, Brendan Hiern, Graham Honeyman, Steve Papadopoulos. *Front row:* Andy Scott, Steve Atsalas, John Panagis, George Konstandopoulos, Ian McGregor.

IT'S FINALS TIME!

SYDNEY CITY

By BRAD EARL

Sydney City is aiming to reverse a disturbing trend which has seen them lose the Grand Final of every play-off series held since 1980.

Murray Barnes, the man who has captained the Champion side in those matches and will once again lead them in the forthcoming top five series, says the Sydney City players are fired up to win.

"We are consistently at the top of the table at the end of the League competition but we have performed reasonably poorly in the end-of-season knockout competitions," Barnes said.

"This will give us extra incentive and we'll be out to win both the League and top five series."

Sydney City topped the table in 1980, 1982 and 1984 but lost the Grand Final in each year to Heidelberg, St George and Sydney Olympic respectively.

By Barnes' standards — and those of his dedicated team-mates — 1985 hasn't been one of Sydney City's best seasons despite the fact that they snatched top spot from Sydney Croatia in the last couple of rounds of the League.

On an individual level, the former Australian Captain, at 31, is producing the goods in the Slickers midfield.

In fact, one OASL coach sees that midfield of Barnes, Gerry Gomez and Joe Watson giving Sydney City the edge in the play-off series.

Blacktown City coach Casey de Bruin believes their organisation and ball-winning ability makes them favourites to qualify for the National Play-off as the top Northern Division team.

Barnes reckons the Sydney City midfield works so well because it consists of players who have played in all three lines of soccer.

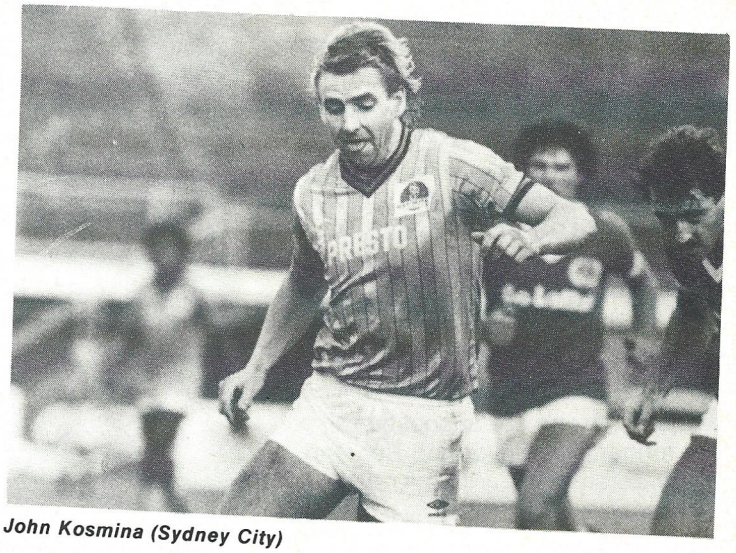
In his long career with Sydney City and Australia, Barnes has played as a striker and as a centre-back, Gomez performs very capably in the back-line, and Watson regularly played up-front until moving back to midfield in recent seasons.

Both Barnes and Watson are in their 30s, but Murray dislikes the term "veteran".

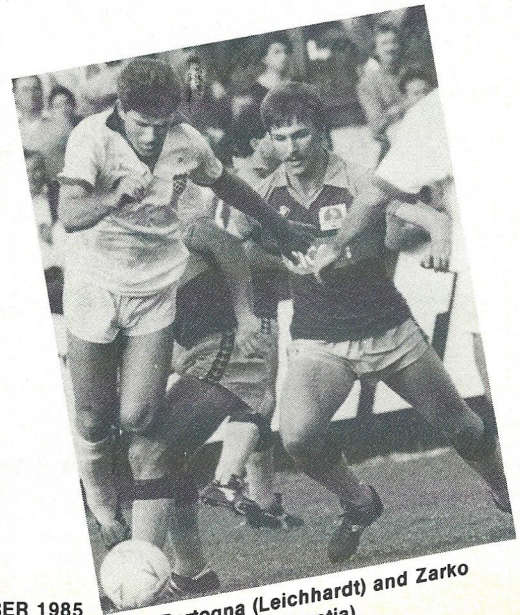
"I prefer to regard us as experienced footballers," he said.

There are no question-marks about the fitness of the Slickers midfield trio, and a secret of their success is their ability to cover one another and maintain concentration.

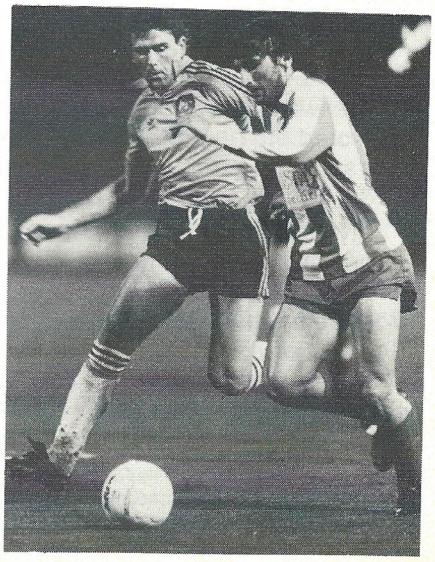
Rob Catlin (Leichhardt) and Steve O'Connor (Blacktown).



John Kosmina (Sydney City)



Arno Bertogna (Leichhardt) and Zarko Odzakov (Sydney Croatia).



Zarko Odzakov (Sydney Croatia).

Of course, Sydney City have a quality look about them in defence and attack as well as midfield.

At the back Alec Robertson, Steve O'Connor and Jimmy Cant form a wall of steel that few strikers can penetrate, while coach Eddie Thomson has the choice of John Kosmina, Grant Lee, Frank Farina and Graeme Fletcher for the attacking duties.

What does Murray Barnes think about the criticism that the City side are too physical and overly aggressive?

"We take the criticism in our stride," Barnes said.

"We aim to be a very strong, very competent and very competitive team. Yet when you put the three together, it appears in some people's eyes that we are going to kick people.

"There's no place for people who don't compete and it is these people who are usually the first to complain."

That competitive spirit is sure to be on display as Sydney City go all-out in their bid to win the top five series.

As Barnes so simply puts it: "We don't want to be second."

MARCONI

Marconi will be banking on diminutive striker David Lowe reproducing the sort of form which saw him grab four goals for New South Wales earlier this month as they challenge for honours in the Northern Division play-offs.

Lowe, who had a strong debut season for Marconi last year, failed to capture the imagination of fans and national coach Frank Arok with his form in the first half of the season.

However, his ability has shone through in the latter stages of the year, culminating in his selection for NSW against the Australian Youth team.

Another Marconi player selected for that match was midfielder Peter Tredinnick — even though both Lowe and Tredinnick would be playing for Northern NSW under a "state of origin" system!

Marconi coach Les Scheinflug's judgement of footballing talent is responsible for Marconi's fine season which at one stage had them challenging for top spot in the Division.

Scheinflug strengthened his squad with four new signings, and none of the new players has proved the former national coach wrong.

Scheinflug raided Marconi's arch-rivals Apia Leichhardt for midfielders Tredinnick and Ian Gray for a combined transfer fee in excess of $30,000.

He then snapped up versatile defender Lee Sterrey for $4,000 from Sydney Croatia and goalkeeper Alex McPherson on loan from Parramatta Melita.

McPherson is one of the most under-rated goalkeepers in the country and he has been keeping former Socceroo squad member Bruce James out of the Marconi first team.

The four new signings have complemented the experience of sweeper and captain Tony Henderson, central midfielder Craig Mason and striker Mark Jankovics.

Former Socceroo Jankovics has been pushed out of the limelight by current Australian international striker Rod Brown, but at 29 Jankovics still has a lot to offer Marconi.

Scheinflug agrees with Sydney Croatia coach Vedran Rozic's view that any of the top four teams have the ability to win the play-offs.

The creativity of Marconi's midfield could have a telling influence on the outcome of their matches.

Tredinnick and Gray are two young players who have thrived since their move to Marconi Stadium, while former Newcastle KG United player Mason is an aggressive ball-winner in the centre of the park.

Marconi can go into the forthcoming top five series with more confidence than last season, as their 1984 squad was largely an inexperienced one.

With players like Lowe, Brown and defenders Steve Calderan and Paul Carter now a year older and more experienced, Marconi appear set to challenge for a place in the Grand Final.

Last year, the Italian-supported club was knocked out by Apia in the minor semi-final on penalty kicks following a see-sawing 3-3 draw.

"We'll be better prepared this time," Scheinflug said with a smile as he looked back on that sudden-death penalty shootout which sent his side back to Bossley Park with nothing to show from the 1984 season.

Scheinflug and his charges are determined to take some silverware home this season and they will take some stopping in the top five series.

SYDNEY CROATIA

If a list was compiled of people who have had the most effect on Australian soccer in 1985, Sydney Croatia captain-coach Vedran Rozic would be a definite inclusion.

Rozic has transformed Sydney Croatia from relegation candidates in 1984 to title challengers this season.

It will be a dream come true for the fervent Croatian fans if the side can take out the all-important play-off series in only their second OASL season.

Rozic, who joined the club as a player midway through last season then took over as coach from Harry Noon when his clearance was blocked by the Yugoslav Football Association, has wiped out the memories of that year of turmoil for Sydney Croatia.

He was finally cleared to play for the start of this year's League season and he assumed the duties of sweeper behind highly-rated centre-back Bruno Vidaic.

From that position, Rozic directs Croatia's effective attacking game with an authority rarely displayed by defenders in Australia.

The former Yugoslav International has the ability to hit long passes into the path of his front-runners with tremendous precision.

And the two 21-year-old strikers, Graham Arnold and Jimmy Patikas, have the pace and the finishing skills necessary to exploit that counter-attacking style to its fullest.

Arnold was a rough diamond when Croatia outlaid $10,000 for him in State League in 1983, while Patikas came to the club from Sydney Olympic for $25,000 following a disappointing 1984 season.

The pair have formed a good understanding in their first year together and have been level-pegging at the top of the goalscoring chart.

They were rewarded for their good form with Socceroo selection in the series against Red Star Belgrade and will obviously be watched very closely — by opponents and spectators alike — during the top five series.

Rozic sings the praises of Arnold and Patikas: "both players have had a great season," he said.

Looking specifically at the play-offs, Rozic naturally expects it to be very hard.

"I think four teams have a good chance of winning — ourselves, Sydney City, Marconi and Sydney Olympic," Rozic said.

"Every team can beat each other."

Rozic is hoping stylish midfielder Marijan Kovacic will be fit to play following a knee liament injury which kept him out for the final rounds of the League competition.

Kovacic, like Vidaic, midfielder Wally Savor and goalkeeper Steve Watson, has given Sydney Croatia great service for several years and he will not want to miss what could be the club's greatest achievement in its 20-year-history.

If there is a weak link in the Croatia team, it is in their defence.

As one rival OASL coach said: "There are flaws in their back-four and their full-backs are suspect under pressure."

But Rozic's approach is a refreshing one and rather unusual coming from a defensive player.

"My motto is that you must score more goals," he says. "That is better for soccer and the supporters."

Anyone who has seen Sydney Croatia in action this season will certainly agree that they turn on the entertainment.

Their presence in the play-offs will guarantee value for money and rookie coach Rozic has set an example for Australian soccer in his short but productive spell with Sydney Croatia.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

After their success in the play-off series last year, Sydney Olympic will have to do it the hard way this time around.

Yet that doesn't worry coach Manfred Schaefer.

"We've done it the hard way all year," said Schaefer, one of an elite band of Australians who have appeared in the World Cup Finals.

For Olympic to repeat their top five success of 1984, they will face three sudden-death matches prior to the Grand Final. There are no second chances for the teams that finish fourth and fifth.

Schaefer believes Sydney Olympic can give the title a shake as long as he can field his best available side.

Unfortunately that side will not include the attacking talents of Peter Katholos and Chris Kalantzis.

Katholos has joined Greek team Larissa while Kalantzis will be on duty for Australia at the World Youth Championship Finals in the USSR.

Midfielder Gary Phillips, who was chosen as Olympic's vice-captain this year by Schaefer, is also ruled out through injury.

The news isn't all bad though, highly-rated sweeper Tony Dakos is back from a lengthy spell on the sidelines.

His return could mean some positional shuffling, as Andy Stankovic and Jimmy Ziras have handled the central defensive duties very capably.

In fact it was the strengthening of the back-four with the signing of Stankovic, who had been playing in the Northern NSW First Division, and the return of former English professional Martyn Rogers from an extended holiday in the UK that led to Olympic's climb from the lower half of the table into the top five.

Of course Olympic supporters will be looking for big contributions from their Australian squad members.

Graham Jennings is quite correctly rated as the number one left-back in the country after only three years in that position.

One player who is capable of producing a performance to match the occasion is midfielder and captain Peter Raskopoulos.

While "Rasko" hasn't reproduced his form of 1984 which saw him named as NSW Player of the Year by press writers, he is a player with the ability to control a game from the centre of the park.

The third Socceroo in the Olympic team — and like Raskopoulos a player who can be a matchwinner on his day — is Marshall Soper.

The aggressive, robust frontman was caught up in the controversy which surrounded the Pratten Park riot recently. Despite his comments that he felt like quitting the game, marked by his abortive withdrawal from the Australian squad for the matches against Red Star, Soper will be on centre stage for Olympic during the play-offs.

There is no doubt Olympic will need major contributions from Soper and Raskopoulos if they are to do well in the series.

The pair produced the goods in the second last round of the League to spearhead Olympic's confidence-boosting 3-1 win over Sydney Croatia.

Vedran Rozic, the Croatian captain-coach on the receiving end of Olympic's best performance of the season, was impressed.

"Olympic played excellently," Rozic said. "If they can repeat that performance they must be regarded as a serious contender for the title."

Schaefer believes Olympic would have finished higher than fourth if his side had put away more of their chances throughout the season.

"We have shown that we can play and we can create," Schaefer said.

"We're not in the top five for nothing. Player for player we are just as good as anyone else.

CANBERRA CITY

The outstanding goalkeeping of Anthony Franken and the unpredictable attacking skills of Manis Lamond will be the key elements in Canberra City Olympians' top five challenge.

Franken, 20, is keen to win a place in the Australian squad for the World Cup matches later in the year and he won't have any better stage than the forthcoming play-off series.

Franken starred for the Australian team at the World Youth Championship in Mexico in 1983 and progressed through the Australian B team to the full national squad for the close-season world tour in 1984.

However, this year he was dropped for Australia's games against touring club sides Tottenham Hotspur, Udinese, Vasco da Gama and Red Star Belgrade.

The level-headed youngster responded in the best way possible — by producing the goods week in and week out for the National Capital side.

Lamond has not been as reliable but at 18 he cannot be expected to have attained a high level of consistency.

The stockily-built striker from Papua New Guinea has produced some outstanding performances in his debut OASL season.

Lamond's task has been made easier by the service provided by his experienced Canberra team-mates.

Former British professionals Steve Bryant, Tommy Sermanni and Ian Gibson have been instrumental in Canberra qualifying for the play-off series for the first time ever.

While former English First Division striker Tommy English only rarely produced the goods up-front, Canberra City coach Roy Thomson drafted an unknown local youngster into the first team with unexpected results.

Jason Dunn, a tall, blond teenager, added bite and speed to the midfield in his debut season in the OASL.

Canberra went from ninth in 1984 to fifth this year and a lot of credit must go to Peter Burke and Terry Byrne.

Both players courageously fought their way back into the top squad following serious leg injuries which threatened to end their careers.

Central defender Burke broke his leg within a couple of weeks of joining Canberra from the now-defunct Newcastle KG United midway through last season.

Byrne, a very versatile defender or midfielder who won a national player of the year award in 1981, came back from a knee reconstruction operation.

Few people believed he could have made such a successful return to top-level football, but he has been a permanent member of Canberra's OASL team this season.

As the fifth-placed team, Canberra have a mighty task in front of them.

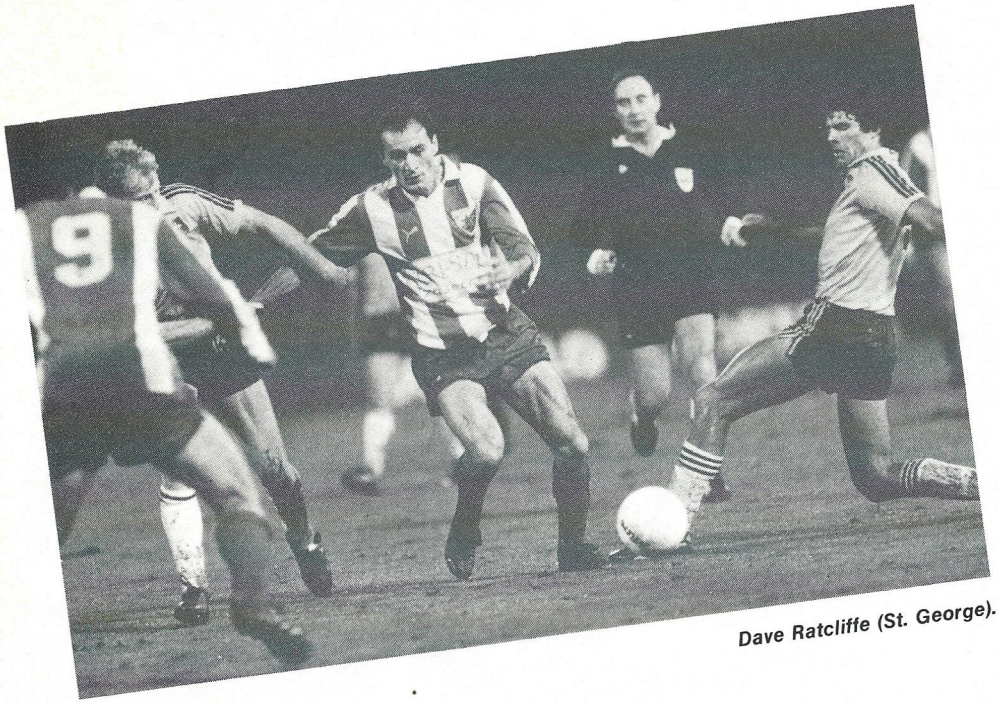
ST GEORGE

If St George are to do well in the forthcoming Northern Division play-off matches, strikers Roy Cotton and Robbie Slater will have to fire.

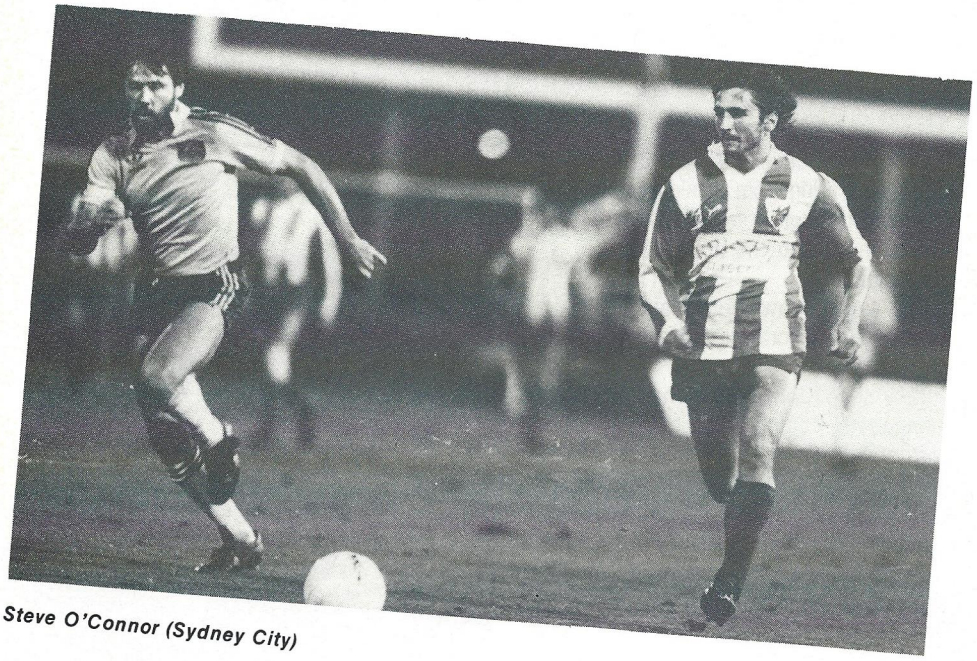
The pair have the ability to be matchwinners but they have both had indifferent seasons this year.

Now with centre-forward Trevor Morgan having returned to England and Peter Petkovski forced to miss the top five series due to the World Youth Championship Finals in the USSR, the pressure will be on Cotton and Slater to score goals.

Cotton, who rejoined St George from



Dave Ratcliffe (St. George).



Steve O'Connor (Sydney City)

Jim Cant (Sydney City).

Penrith City at the start of the season, admits it's been difficult for him this year.

He says he is not suited to a target-man role in attack.

"St George have always had a target player and our style of play required that type of player," Cotton said.

"That is why Trevor Morgan did a super job for us."

With Morgan in the team, the Saints put together a string of wins to lift themselves out of the relegation zone in mid-year to fifth place and consequently a place in the all-important play-off series.

However, Cotton was in and out of the team throughout the season and only began to produce the form he is capable of in the last few rounds of the League.

When he is in top form he ranks as one of the top strikers in the country and has an abundance of skill on the ball.

Similarly Slater's creative ability was impressive this year, but he struggled to convert his work into goals.

While St George's fortunes in the play-offs will be dependent on Cotton and Slater, the midfield will have to provide support for the two frontmen.

Peter Stone and Mark Barton will be contesting the vacant midfield position alongside John O'Shea, Vic Bozanic and Pedro Ricoy.

Stone, 30, began the year as captain but lost his place due to poor form, with Socceroo central defender Dave Ratcliffe taking over as skipper.

Barton, a forceful, grafting midfielder, has had a miserable season marked by a falling-out with manager-coach Frank Arok.

Stone and Barton shared some of Saints' finest moments of recent years under Arok: the 1981 NSW State League Grand Final win, the 1982 NSL Grand Final win and the 1983 NSL Championship success.

Several of the players will look back to that Grand Final success of 1982 when St George turned the tables on champions Sydney City with a 3-1 victory at Penrith Park.

As Cotton warned: "The last time St George were in the semis they won the play-off series."

Arok's squad has been cut by three following Morgan's departure and the absence of Petkovski and Andy Koczka on duty with the Australian Youth team.

However, Cotton believes there is enough ability in the remaining 14-man squad for Saints to be competitive in the play-offs.

"It will be a do-or-die situation against Sydney Olympic," he said in reference to the sudden-death nature of the first semi-final.

"I think we'll surprise a few people," Cotton concluded.

SOUTH MELBOURNE

By PETER DESIRA
Soccer Writer for "The Sun", Melbourne

Heidelberg and Juventus appear to be the main dangers to reigning champion South Melbourne which must still be considered the favourite from the Victoria dominated Southern Section.

And that's not only because for the second year running South has topped the division table.

The club, for the first time in Len McKendry's reign as coach, this year suffered two successive defeats going down to Melbourne Croatia at home 1-2 on May 5th and then continuing its poor record in Brisbane by coming back with a 1-2 loss at Brisbane City.

But the hiccup turned out to be minor and in spite of losing the leadership three times during the campaign, the side's experience enabled the club to bounce back every time.

South has again built its success on the successful partnership of Charlie Egan and Doug Brown.

In 1984 Egan was the provider playing a major part in Brown becoming the leading scorer of the NSL for the second year running.

This season, Brown took his time finding his scoring touch and Egan responded magnificently with eight goals in the opening four rounds.

By the end of the season, matters levelled out however and Brown ended up with a nine goal haul which compared favourably with Egan's season total of 15.

The other big success of the season at South was the signing of Gary McDowell bought initially to bolster the midfield which had lost the services of Alan Davidson.

Surrounded by established internationals in Oscar Crino and Ken Murphy, McDowell took some time to start showing out in the middle of the park although even his initial performances were workmanlike.

Once he settled into the team's rhythm, McDowell also proved his all round utility capabilities filling in admirably in the heart of the defence during the absence through injury of skipper John Yzendoorn.

Crino missed the night series through injury but regained his touch in the league and has been the man everybody has come to see with his South American brand of skills and his eye for the defence splitting passes as well as scoring the occasional magic goal.

South has few weaknesses and also has another classy performer in Bobby Russell, an everpresent at rightback.

His consistent displays had most clamouring for his recall to the national team where the right back position has proved to be the biggest headache.

Steve Blair and Carl Halford of South Melbourne v Richard Miranda and Robert Cullen of Juventus.

PRESTON

Preston clinched fifth spot in the finals after recovering from a mid season slump by going through a seven match unbeaten stint at the end of the campaign.

The season saw the remarkable re-emergence of Zoran Ilioski as a force in midfield.

New coach Billy Murray has finally managed to compliment Ilioski's skills with added workrate and the midfielder ought to be a candidate for the league's player of the year awards at the end of the season

Preston seemed to be top heavy with strikers at one stage with Sean Lane, Gary Cole, Warren Spink and Steve Smith providing congestion in the front line.

Murray eventually settled to moving Lane in a deeper role.

In the goalkeeping department, Preston also made a surprising discovery in teenager Phillip Traianedes.

Traianedes was pushed in at the deep end as a fill in for Richard Wilson who was dropped for disciplinary measures.

After starring on his debut and in spite of a 0-1 defeat to South Melbourne, the young keeper kept his spot and continued to bring off some spectacular saves to frustrate the New Zealand international to the extent that Wilson eventually placed a transfer request with the club.

Traianedes' form was recognised by national youth coach Jim Shoulder who included Traianedes in the training camps and named him as a standby player for the squad going to Russia for the World Youth Championship finals.

Melbourne Croatia's striker Gary Ward, beaten this time by Gully's Steve McLelland.

Preston defenders Robbie Dunn, Ian Dobson and Sean Lane repel a Heidelberg attack.

Heidelberg's Ian MicKie.

"Shall we dance?" Angie Postecoglou (South Melbourne) comes to grips with Andrew Zinni (Juventus).

MELBOURNE CROATIA

The two goalkeepers who did make the Youth squad were number one choice Paul Jones of the AIS and Mirko Runje of Melbourne Croatia.

Runje nudged himself into the squad ahead of Traianedes after overcoming stiff opposition at club level to make himself the number one choice at Melbourne Croatia ahead of Zeliko Govic.

Croatia's embarrassment of riches in the goalkeeping department was eased with the release of Yakka Banovic leaving Govic and Runje to fight out for the spot.

Runje took over as first choice with the arrival of Domagoj Kapetanovic and by the end of the season the new coach was hailing the youngster as the best goalkeeper in the NSL.

While the goalkeeping situation was a big plus, Croatia went through an unsettling season in other areas and by the end of the campaign had used a total of 21 players.

The club disposed of captain Shaun Parton and former player-coach Tommy Cumming and then went through a long battle before settling its differences with striker Robert Markovac.

New import Ante Ljubic struck an injury in his first match for the club but finally got back in his stride to score four goals in as many matches near the end of the season.

Gary Ward turned out to be the club's best buy scoring nine goals in the campaign.

Dave McIntosh was signed on the eve of the transfer deadline as Parton's replacement and has added aerial power and much needed tenacity at the back.

Steve Gojevic is the side's other star performer although this season he has not been as prominent in the scoring charts.

Heidelberg defenders watch apprehensively as Jeff Olver punches the ball off Gary McDowell's head.

Melbourne Croatia's Jozo Antolovic and Mirko Runje thwart Green Gully's David Smallman.

FINAL FIVE PROGRAMME

Northern and Southern

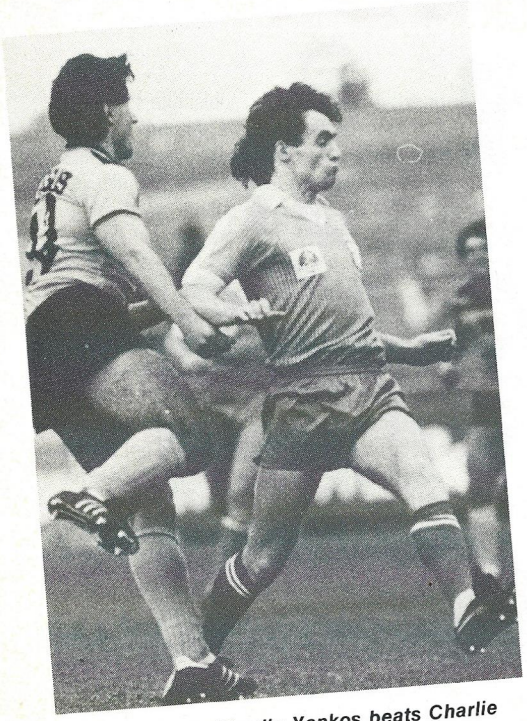
Elimination and Preliminary Semi-Finals
WEDNESDAY, 21st AUGUST, 1985

Major and Minor Semi-Finals
SUNDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1985

Preliminary Finals
WEDNESDAY, 28th AUGUST, 1985

Divisional Grand Finals
SUNDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 1985

National Grand Final
1st LEG: SYDNEY — WEDNESDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER, 1985
2nd LEG: MELBOURNE — SUNDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER, 1985



Heidelberg's Charlie Yankos beats Charlie Egan this time.

Melbourne Croatia's Ante Ljubic challenges Gully goalkeeper Lou Denys.

BRUNSWICK UNITED JUVENTUS

Brunswick United Juventus has had the most settled side in the Southern Division of the National League.

It has used only a total of 15 players throughout the 1985 season as compared to 21 by Melbourne Croatia out of the top five candidates.

Juve's 15 men include Frank Geremia who played in the opening round of the League and then retired and Sean Keogh who also played one game against Brisbane City, on the weekend Yakka Banovic was away getting married.

Then there was Joe Palatsidis who made two appearances as substitute in the first three rounds and has not been used since.

Apart from those three, coach John Margaritis has relied heavily on nine regulars and a strong competition for the remaining two spots between Fab Incantalupo, Andrew Zinni and Richard Miranda.

The real success story of Juventus was the signing of Mike Petersen, bought in emergency circumstances following an injury to Miranda in March.

The midfielder, fresh from a successful trial in Holland, was thrust into the sweeper position for his first game, came through with flying colours and since then has been thrilling the fans with the unexpected in his more comfortable role in the middle of the park.

Apart from setting up the chances, Petersen has contributed by netting five goals himself and no doubt the club will be hoping for him to provide the unexpected bit of magic to make the finals series a success for Juventus.

While Petersen has contributed, the main scoring responsibility has fallen on Andrew Zinni and strong target man Joe Sweeney.

Sweeney made a slow start to the season, goalscoring wise and by the end of the 10th round had only one goal to his credit.

But a hat-trick against Brisbane City in a memorable 5-4 win at Olympic Park in May changed all that and he has since followed that up with a double at Green Gully, and singles against Preston, Adelaide City and George Cross.

Zinni also registered a hat-trick to his credit — against Adelaide City in April — as well as netting against South Melbourne, Preston, Brisbane Lions, George Cross and Melbourne Croatia for a season's tally of eight.

Margaritis has played most of the season with two front runners but depended heavily on Robbie Cullen to provide width with his runs from midfield.

Cullen, the tiger who first prowled and pounced on Victorian soccer opponents in 1976, has rediscovered his prowess in three years at Juve after finishing a stint at Preston disillusioned by the game.

While the forwards and midfielders have played their part, the Juve backline has been just as valuable in lifting Juve from fifth to second spot on the table.

Juve spent $18,000 to buy fullback Peter Lewis, went to great lengths to create a vacancy for Brian Brown, and lashed out $11,000 to sign Yakka Banovic from Melbourne Croatia.

HEIDELBERG UNITED

But when one considers that the best goalkeeper in the League — Jeff Olver — has had to wait years for his chance in the national team, it may not be such an injustice after all.

Olver finally lifted himself from a potential candidate to become the man putting all the pressure on first choice Terry Greedy.

He played his first senior international in Adelaide against Udinese and then was plunged into the pressure game against Red Star in Sydney in the recent series.

The rewarding recognition at national team level came during Olver's best season at NSL level after many years as understudy to Jack Reilly and Banovic at Heidelberg.

He also kept nine clean sheets in the NSL campaign and it is little wonder that the defence is considered Heidelberg's strength in the upcoming finals.

Apart from Olver, the club has Socceroo general Charlie Yankos as sweeper, fellow strongman Joe Angele generally looking after the opposition's main striker and reliable and consistent fullbacks Steve Marley and Ian MacKie to make up a formidable — often impenetrable — back four.

Up front Stuart Stevenson has carried the goalscoring burden and the dour Scot's courage has invariably seen him diving into dangerous situations most other strikers wouldn't even dream of putting themselves into in their search for goals.

Stevenson's reward has been 11 goals, a vast improvement on the tally he managed in his first acclimatising season in Australia.

Heidelberg has also successfully solved its midfield trouble spot in good time for the finals by switching Steve Winn from a forward position to the centre of the park to provide the tackling power to complement the skills provided by George Christopoulos and the speed of new teenage sensation Steve Tasios.

QUEENSLAND NOT TO

BRISBANE LIONS: *Back row (l to r):* Richard Bassingthwaite, Paul Burns, Alan Hunter, Wayne Evans, Alan Niven, Roddy Vasquez, Calvin Daunt. *Front row:* Danny Wright, John Ogden, John Stewart, Steve Jackson, Russell Stewart, Clark Anderson.

As foundation members of the National League, officials from Queensland's two NSL clubs, Brisbane City and Lions point out that they now have survived for nine years — despite constant rumours of their demise or axing.

And for that reason the two clubs are confident that they will again line-up in 1986 — despite the secret moves being orchestrated out of Melbourne for yet another new format which may not include Queensland.

"Every year at about this time we hear the same old stories, the same old rumours," was the reacion of City and Lions officials to the reports filtering out of Melbourne.

The secret behind-their-back moves do not surprise the Queenslanders. They have never really trusted their Victorian counterparts and following the comments of South Melbourne's Leo Anezakis last year, never really liked them.

Then, like the reports now, Anezakis called for the axing of the Queensland teams. He claimed they had contributed nothing to the National League and "should be left to die alone".

But the Brisbane clubs refute that and maintain they have strong claims to be part of the National Soccer Competition.

Between them the two clubs have won the knockout competition three times while, in nine years, both at some stage have finished inside the top four and featured in the finals' series.

The clubs provided to the National Youth Team players like Russell Stewart, Danny Wright and Stephen Glockner and introduced to Australian Soccer players of the calibre of David Ratcliffe, who was brought to Australia by Brisbane City, Alan Niven and Frank Pimblett.

But it has been off the field that the two clubs have achieved the most startling results.

In recent years Brisbane City and Lions chose to pour their financial resources into developing facilities for their supporters, and both have achieved that target.

Lions own their Richlands complex, valued at more than a million dollars. The complex includes a clubhouse, grandstands and one of the best playing surfaces in Australia.

And within 12 months Brisbane City will own it's million dollar grandstand which, with 18 private boxes. is rated the best of it's kind in the State and probably the finest soccer grandstand in the country.

"When you look at some of the facilities, or more to the point the lack of them, of some of these clubs that are trying to get rid of the Queensland teams then you have to question the soundness of their actions," City Secretary Mrs Sue Conti said.

Although City and Lions have a good working relationship, both clubs have rejected the idea of a merger if that was the only way Queensland could maintain a representation in the National Competition.

If it ever came to the State having only one team in the competition, City no doubt would attempt to go it alone. Their Italian background means they have strong southern allies who have in the past and no doubt would again, support Brisbane City's retention.

But Lions are by no means out on a limb. Over the years they have developed a reputation as a mediator and negotiator, a club that helped solve the tricky situations.

In the past when things looked grim, like the near axing of Queensland in 1982, Lions officials were shrewd enough to do the right lobbying and votes particularly from Sydney backed their cause.

But against attempts by Southern clubs, to oust Brisbane City and Lions, the two Queensland clubs always have an ace up their sleeve. That is the vote held by the Queensland Soccer Federation on the ASF.

Although the QSF and the two NSL clubs have clashed repeatedly over the past, particularly Lions in relation to the playing of their reserve side in the top local competition — the QSF has supported the clubs at National level.

Although QSF President Ald. Ian Brusasco has long campaigned for an end to the National League, the Federation has always backed any of it's clubs that wish to be a part.

As any change to the NSL ultimately needs ASF approval the two clubs see the QSF vote as their final saving grace.

But both believe it will never get that far.

"The clubs agreed to maintain the present format for three years. While we would like to be grouped in with the Sydney sides we are prepared to play on in Melbourne. I think in the end, despite all these secret meetings, sanity will prevail and the vote will be to maintain the status quo," Lions Secretary Mr Lawrence Oudendyk said.

BRISBANE LIONS

After the success of last season when Lions stormed into the National League Southern Conference Finals, this year proved to be a disappointment.

Although all season Lions were always confident they would make the five, they faltered at the last hurdle, losing matches they should well have won.

The team is stacked with talent, but it was painfully obvious they lacked a reliable striker.

Last year it was Joe Cairney's 10 goals which enabled Lions to pick up the extra points. This year Cairney was first out of touch, then out injured, and the others just never put away the chances.

BE IGNORED

By GEOFF STEAD

In fact midfielder John Stewart finished the year as the side's leading scorer and the side's captain was undoubtedly their most reliable and effective player.

His never ending workrate and leadership ranked him as one of the most under-rated players in the League and surely a player Frank Arok should have considered.

Lions hope to remedy the goal-scoring situation by signing a recognised marksman from overseas. They have spoken to former England player Bob Latchford, who guested with the club four years ago, and also have contacted former coach Simon Kistemaker, now back in Holland.

"If we had someone whom we could rely upon to put the ball away when it dropped in front of the net, then we would be a great team," Lions coach Gordon Arrowsmith said.

"In players like the Stewart brothers (John and Russell), Alan Niven, Alan Hunter and Richard Bassingthwaite we have players who rank among the best in the positions in the competition.

The lowest the side sunk to was 9th during a lean period during July.

As for next year, Arrowsmith will be back again, as will most of the side's players.

Several Southern clubs staged raids on Lions during the last off-season, with Hunter, Steve Jackson and Russell Stewart being the prime targets, but Lions fended off the approaches.

But club directors have indicated that this time the finances are not there to offer the players similar offers.

"If a Southern club makes a fair offer for one of our players, and he wants to go, then we will not stand in this way," Club Secretary Mr Lawrence Oudendyk said.

"Anyone who watched us this season would know we played good football, we just didn't capitalise on the opportunities."

For much of the season Lions floated around the mid-table, although the euphoria of last season carried over to the beginning of this year and after two rounds they were in second place.

BRISBANE CITY

Brisbane City's 1985 season never really got off to a good start.

The club appointed former Intermediate League coach Tony Lowndes to guide its NSL team through what was always going to be a belt-tightening season.

Lowndes attempted to rally a side which had lost from the previous year ironman stopper Frank Liddell and was without captain and midfield general Frank Pimblett, who stayed in dispute with the club until midway through the year.

Lowndes lasted just six weeks before he was sacked in the now famous "behind the bus" incident, and it was former coach Jim Hermiston who stepped into the breach.

When Hermiston took over City were third last with just two points. But in the weeks that followed there was renewed enthusiasm. A draw followed by three wins saw City climb the table to their season high of sixth, but then, as they did under Hermiston's previous reign at the club, results went bad as the end of the season approached.

The side seemed to be scoring it's share of goals, with the signing of Canberra's Alan Reis proving to be a valuable acquisition and finishing the side's leading scorer. But the defence never really consolidated, with City finishing the year with the Division's worst defensive record largely thanks to a disaster run of three consecutive 4-1 away defeats in the closing weeks.

Hermiston makes no secret that he was disappointed in the final placing, particularly after his side showed what it could do when he first took over.

But an ever-optimist, Hermiston is already looking to next year.

He believes his side was not fit enough or prepared enough to compete with the Southern sides this year and he already has mapped out a gruelling eight week pre-season programme.

And he naturally wants to bolster his thin squad. Finances are not flush at City but Hermiston believes the talent he needs is in the local Brisbane Premier League competition. He has already proved that with the signing of promising young fullback Glenn Archer from Grange Thistle.

Hermiston has looked at three other players, including a stopper and striker and hopes they will accept invitations to trial next year.

Apart from City's lowly position, the other disappointing aspect of the season for the club was the failure of Brazilian import Roberto Lettieri. Although Lettieri was hailed by some club officials as a sensation, but for one game, he never really showed his class in the NSL arena.

The striker always seemed to lack fitness and found it difficult to come to grips with the tough NSL.

BRISBANE CITY: *Back row (l to r):* Billy Wilkinson, Milan Milovanovic, Frank Pimblett, Kim Wishart, Ray Junna, Luciano Fabrizio, Stephen Glockner. *Front row:* Frank Mengotti, Lee Scriggins, Bobby Hamilton, Gary Bromfield, Roberto Lettieri.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 19

Northern Division

10th July
A.I.S. ..... 3 v Inter Monaro..... 2

13th July
Blacktown City..... 3 v A.I.S. 6
Newcastle..... 1 v Wollongong City..... 1

14th July
Canberra City..... 3 v Blacktown City..... 1
St. George..... 4 v Leichhardt..... 2
Marconi..... 2 v Syd. City..... 1
Syd. Olympic..... 1 v Inter Monaro..... 0
Penrith City..... 3 v Syd. City..... 2

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Wollongong**	19	13	1	5	42	24	27
2. **Canberra City**	18	12	3	3	38	23	27
3. **Syd. City**	17	9	3	5	41	21	21
4. **Newcastle**	19	9	3	7	24	21	21
5. **A.I.S.**	16	8	4	4	48	35	20
6. **St. George**	18	9	2	7	36	37	20
7. **Leichhardt**	18	7	5	6	25	24	19
8. **Inter Monaro**	21	7	3	11	29	44	17
9. **Marconi**	20	5	6	9	36	42	16
10. **Syd. Croatia**	20	5	5	10	28	37	15
11. **Syd. Olympic**	20	5	5	10	26	37	15
12. **Blacktown City**	19	6	2	11	34	44	14
13. **Penrith City**	19	5	2	12	26	44	12

ROUND 19

Southern Division

13th July
Green Gully..... 7 v Croydon City..... 1

14th July
Nunawading City..... 2 v Fawkner..... 0
Brunswick U.J..... 1 v Sunshine G.C..... 1
South Melbourne..... 2 v Heidelberg Utd..... 1
Preston..... 0 v Melb. Croatia..... 2
Frankston Pines..... 2 v Footscray..... 3

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **South Melb.**	19	13	3	3	40	19	29
2. **Brunswick U.J.**	19	10	7	2	62	21	27
3. **H'berg Utd.**	19	13	1	5	69	30	27
4. **Melb. Croatia**	19	11	5	3	42	14	27
5. **Preston**	19	10	5	4	41	23	25
6. **Footscray**	19	9	3	7	37	35	21
7. **Green Gully**	19	9	2	8	47	26	20
8. **Sunshine G.C.**	19	6	4	9	37	28	16
9. **Nunawading**	19	5	5	9	20	49	15
10. **Fawkner**	19	3	3	13	21	64	9
11. **Frankston P.**	19	2	2	15	22	74	6
12. **Croydon City**	19	2	2	15	15	70	6

ROUND 20

Northern Division

24th July
Canberra City..... 3 v A.I.S. 2

20th July
A.I.S. ..... 6 v Leichhardt..... 1
Syd. Croatia..... 1 v Blacktown City..... 1

21st July
Leichhardt..... 0 v Canberra City..... 1
Penrith City..... 3 v Syd. Olympic..... 0
Syd. City..... P v Newcastle..... P
Wollongong City..... 2 v St. George..... 1
Inter Monaro..... 2 v Marconi 1

NORTHERN DIVISION POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Canberra City**	20	14	3	3	42	25	31
2. **Wollongong**	20	14	1	5	44	25	29
3. **A.I.S.**	18	9	4	5	56	39	22
4. **Syd. City**	17	9	3	5	41	21	21
5. **Newcastle**	19	9	3	7	24	21	21
6. **St. George**	19	9	2	8	37	39	20
7. **Leichhardt**	20	7	5	8	26	31	19
8. **Inter Monaro**	22	8	3	11	31	45	19
9. **Marconi**	21	5	6	10	37	44	16
10. **Syd. Croatia**	21	5	6	10	29	38	16
11. **Blacktown City**	20	6	3	11	35	45	15
12. **Syd. Olympic**	21	5	5	11	26	40	15
13. **Penrith City**	20	6	2	12	29	44	14

ROUND 20

Southern Division

21st July
Sunshine G.C..... 0 v Nunawading City..... 1
Frankston Pines..... 0 v Green Gully..... 4
Melb. Croatia..... 1 v South Melb..... 2
Heidelberg Utd..... 1 v Brunswick U.J..... 1
Croydon ..... 0 v Preston..... 0

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **South Melb.**	20	14	3	3	42	20	31
2. **Brunswick U.J.**	20	10	8	2	63	22	28
3. **H'berg Utd.**	20	13	2	5	70	31	28
4. **Melb. Croatia**	20	11	5	4	43	16	27
5. **Preston**	20	10	6	4	41	23	26
6. **Green Gully**	20	10	2	8	51	26	22
7. **Footscray**	19	9	3	7	37	35	21
8. **Nunawading**	20	6	5	9	21	49	17
9. **Sunshine G.C.**	20	6	4	10	37	29	16
10. **Fawkner**	19	3	3	13	21	64	9
11. **Croydon City**	20	2	3	15	15	70	7
12. **Frankston P.**	20	2	2	16	22	78	6

ROUND 21

Northern Division

17th July
Newcastle..... 0 v Inter Monaro..... 0
St. George..... 1 v Syd. City..... 2

28th July
Syd. Olympic..... 4 v Syd. Croatia..... 1
Marconi..... 3 v Penrith City..... 1
Canberra City..... 0 v Wollongong City..... 1
Blacktown City..... 0 v Leichhardt..... 2
Newcastle..... 1 v A.I.S. 1

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Wollongong**	21	15	1	5	45	25	31
2. **Canberra City**	21	14	3	4	42	26	31
3. **Syd. City**	18	10	3	5	43	22	23
4. **A.I.S.**	19	9	5	5	57	40	23
5. **Newcastle**	21	9	5	7	25	22	23
6. **Leichhardt**	21	8	5	8	28	31	21
7. **St. George**	20	9	2	9	38	41	20
8. **Inter Monaro**	23	8	4	11	31	45	20
9. **Marconi**	22	6	6	10	40	45	18
10. **Syd. Olympic**	22	6	5	11	30	41	17
11. **Syd. Croatia**	22	5	6	11	30	42	16
12. **Blacktown City**	21	6	3	12	35	47	15
13. **Penrith City**	21	6	2	13	30	47	14

ROUND 21

Southern Division

28th July
Preston..... 4 v Frankston Pines..... 2
Green Gully..... 3 v Footscray 2
Brunswick U.J..... 0 v Melb. Croatia..... 0
South Melb..... 7 v Croydon City..... 1
Nunawading City..... 0 v Heidelberg Utd..... 2
Fawkner ..... P v Sunshine G.C..... P

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **South Melb.**	21	15	3	3	49	21	33
2. **H'berg Utd.**	21	14	2	5	72	31	30
3. **Brunswick U.J.**	21	10	9	2	63	22	29
4. **Melb. Croatia**	21	11	6	4	43	16	28
5. **Preston**	21	11	6	4	45	25	28
6. **Green Gully**	21	11	2	8	54	28	24
7. **Footscray**	20	9	3	8	39	38	21
8. **Nunawading**	21	6	5	10	21	51	17
9. **Sunshine G.C.**	20	6	4	10	37	29	16
10. **Fawkner**	19	3	3	13	21	64	9
11. **Croydon City**	21	2	3	16	16	77	7
12. **Frankston P.**	21	2	2	17	24	82	6

ROUND 22

Northern Division

3rd August
Newcastle..... 0 v Syd. City..... 2
Penrith City..... 1 v Canberra City..... 2
Leichhardt..... 0 v A.I.S. 2

4th August
Marconi..... 5 v A.I.S. 3
Blacktown City..... 2 v Syd. Croatia..... 2
Syd. City..... 3 v Leichhardt..... 2

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Canberra City**	22	15	3	4	44	27	33
2. **Wollongong**	21	15	1	5	45	25	31
3. **Syd. City**	20	12	3	5	48	24	27
4. **A.I.S.**	21	10	5	6	62	45	25
5. **Newcastle**	22	9	5	8	25	24	23
6. **Leichhardt**	23	8	5	10	30	36	21
7. **Marconi**	23	7	6	10	45	48	20
8. **St. George**	20	9	2	9	38	41	20
9. **Inter Monaro**	23	8	4	11	31	45	20
10. **Syd.Olympic**	22	6	5	11	30	41	17
11. **Syd. Croatia**	23	5	7	11	32	44	17
12. **Blacktown City**	22	6	4	12	37	49	16
13. **Penrith City**	22	6	2	14	31	49	14

THANK YOU

The National Soccer Monthly wishes to thank all soccer fans who have supported our magazine over the 1985 season. This is the final edition for this year and we look forward to giving you both an informative and visually pleasing journal again in 1986.

Thanks also to all the clubs in the National Soccer League, without whom this publication would not be possible.

ROUND 22

Southern Division

18th August

Footscray	2	v	Sunshine G.C. 6
Green Gully	0	v	Preston 1
Frankston Pines	3	v	South Melb. 1
Croydon City	0	v	Brunswick U.J. 3
Melbourne Croatia	2	v	Nunawading City 1
H'berg Utd.	8	v	Fawkner 0

YOUTH LEAGUE SOUTHERN DIVISION POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **South Melb.**	22	15	3	4	50	24	33
2. **Brunswick U.J.**	22	11	9	2	66	22	31
3. **H'berg Utd.**	21	14	2	5	78	31	30
4. **Green Gully**	22	11	2	9	54	29	24
5. **Preston**	22	12	6	4	46	25	30
6. **Green Gully**	22	11	2	9	54	29	24
7. **Footscray**	21	9	3	9	41	44	21
8. **Sunshine G.C.**	21	7	4	10	43	31	18
9. **Nunawading**	21	6	5	10	22	51	17
10. **Fawkner**	20	3	3	14	21	72	9
11. **Frankston P.**	22	3	2	17	27	83	8
12. **Croydon City**	22	2	3	17	16	80	7

ROUND 23

Northern Division

6th August

St. George	1	v	Wollongong City 5

10th August

Syd. City	5	v	Newcastle 0
Wollongong City	0	v	A.I.S. 0
St. George	2	v	Penrith City 1

11th August

St. George	4	v	Syd. Olympic 2
Syd. City	4	v	A.I.S. 1
Blacktown City	1	v	Canberra City 1

YOUTH LEAGUE NORTHERN DIVISION POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Wollongong**	23	16	2	5	50	26	34
2. **Canberra City**	23	15	4	4	45	28	34
3. **Syd. City**	22	14	3	5	57	25	31
4. **A.I.S.**	23	10	6	7	63	49	26
5. **St. George**	23	11	2	10	45	49	24
6. **Newcastle**	23	9	5	9	25	29	23
7. **Leichhardt**	23	8	5	10	30	36	21
8. **Marconi**	23	7	6	10	45	48	20
9. **Inter Monaro**	23	8	4	11	31	45	20
10. **Blacktown City**	23	6	5	12	38	50	17
11. **Syd. Croatia**	23	5	7	11	32	44	17
12. **Syd. Olympic**	23	6	5	12	32	45	17
13. **Penrith City**	23	6	2	15	32	51	14

ROUND 24

Northern Division

16th August

A.I.S.	2	v	Syd. City 1

18th August

Syd. Croatia	3	v	Leichhardt 1
Syd. Olympic	1	v	Marconi 3
Penrith City	0	v	Newcastle 0
Inter Monaro	2	v	St. George 2
Syd. City	1	v	Canberra City 2
Wollongong City	4	v	Blacktown City 1

YOUTH LEAGUE NORTHERN DIVISION POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Wollongong**	24	17	2	5	54	27	36
2. **Canberra City**	24	16	4	4	47	29	36
3. **Syd. City**	24	14	3	7	59	29	31
4. **A.I.S.**	24	11	6	7	65	50	28
5. **St. George**	24	11	3	10	47	51	25
6. **Newcastle**	24	9	6	9	25	29	24
7. **Marconi**	24	8	6	10	48	49	22
8. **Leichhardt**	24	8	5	11	31	39	21
9. **Inter Monaro**	24	8	5	11	33	47	21
10. **Syd. Croatia**	24	6	7	11	35	45	19
11. **Blacktown City**	24	6	5	13	39	54	17
12. **Syd. Olympic**	24	6	5	13	33	48	17
13. **Penrith City**	24	6	3	15	32	51	15

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER LEAGUE SCORES & TABLES

ROUND 19

Northern Division

13th July

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED.....(0) 1
Senkalski
WOLLONGONG CITY.....(1) 3
Brodnik, Stefanovski, Godzik

Adamstown Oval

Newcastle Rosebud United: Gosling, M. Jones, Owens, Boogaard, Thompson, Maier, MacQuarrie, Brandt, Stewart, Todd, Senkalski.
Wollongong City: Velkov, Green, Vlietstra, Willis, Gaffney, Hristovski, Godzik, Bundalo (Stefanovski), Kotamanidis, Marton, Brodnik.

14th July

CANBERRA CITY.....(1) 3
Gibson, Bryant, English
BLACKTOWN CITY.....(1) 2
O'Connor (2)

National Sports Centre

Canberra City: Franken, Mihailidis, Burke, Harkins (Farrell), Bryant, Sermanni, Bryne, Dunn, Gibson, Lamond, English.
Blacktown City: Hoare, Skellern, Bourke, Pointer, Spanos, Selvage, Thornthwaite, Bradley, Larkin, McKie, O'Connor.

ST. GEORGE.....(0) 2
Morgan, Cotton
APIA LEICHHARDT.....(0) 0

St. George Stadium

St. George: Greedy, Skeen, M. O'Shea, Ratcliffe, Koczka, J. O'Shea, Ricoy, Bozanic, Petkovski (Cotton), Morgan, Slater.
Apia Leichhardt: Catlin, Sterrey, Mariani, Rowden, Brown, Steven, McCulloch, Hamilton, Colagiuri (Caban), McBride, Morsello.

MARCONI.....(0) 0
SYDNEY CITY.....(0) 0

Marconi Stadium

Marconi: McPherson, Carter, Henderson, Calderan, Rizzotto, Sterrey, Gray, Tredinnick, Lowe, Sharne (Jankovics), Brown.
Sydney City: Pezzano, Rodrigues, Robertson, O'Connor, Cant, Kay (Farina), Watson, Barnes, P. Falconer, Kosmina, Lee.

PENRITH CITY.....(0) 0
SYDNEY CROATIA.....(1) 1
Jurin

Cook Park

Penrith City: Gibson, Brogan, Ainsworth, Campbell, Hebb, Cross, Wotherspoon, Jackson, Hunter, Jones, Licata (Easthorpe).
Sydney Croatia: Watson, A. Kovacic, Rozic, Vidaic, Rezo, Savor, Odzakov, Clinch, Jurin (Dragicevic), Arnold, Patikas (Basic).

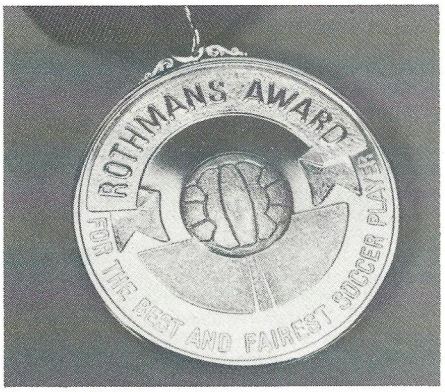
SYDNEY OLYMPIC.....(0) 1
Ogun
INTER MONARO.....(0) 1
Titilas

Croatian Sports Centre

Sydney Olympic: Meier, Rogers, Stankovic, Ziras, Jennings, Johnston, Haniotis (Mazzotta), Raskopoulos, Polias (Lampropoulos), Ogun, Kalantzis.
Inter Monaro: Hocking, Tuilawa, Budini, Titilas, Williams, Willox, A. Ambrosino, Carbone, Giampaolo, Walsh (Santolin), Thamnidis (Brennan).

POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. **Syd. Croatia**	19	12	5	2	42	19	29
2. **Marconi**	19	11	6	2	40	20	28
3. **Syd. City**	18	11	5	2	33	17	27
4. **Syd. Olympic**	19	10	2	7	23	22	22
5. **St. George**	19	7	6	6	28	22	20
6. **Canberra City**	19	7	5	7	29	30	19
7. **Blacktown City**	19	7	3	9	29	26	17
8. **Inter Monaro**	19	6	5	8	27	35	17
9. **Leichhardt**	18	6	1	11	19	31	13
10. **Penrith City**	19	3	6	10	20	27	12
11. **Wollongong**	19	4	4	11	23	43	12
12. **Newcastle**	19	3	4	12	18	39	10



THE ROTHMANS MEDAL

which will be presented to the League's Best and Fairest Player by the Minister for Sport, the Hon. John Brown at a function to be held at the Sheraton-Wentworth in Sydney on Friday, 13th September, 1985.

Guest of Honour for the occasion will be former Irish International and ex-manager of Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur, Terry Neill, who represented his country in 59 matches.

ROUND 19
Southern Division

13th July
GREEN GULLY.....(1) 4
Lewis (2), Williams, Smallman
BRISBANE CITY.....(1) 1
Junna
Green Gully Reserve

Green Gully: Denys, Young, McLelland, Cannell, Hogben, Cumming, Smallman, Williams, Campbell (Smart), Lewis, Lucchesi.
Brisbane City: Wishart, Archer, Milovanovic, Wilkinson, Bromfield, Junna (Fabrizio), Mengotti, Pimblett, Hamilton, Reis, Carey (Scriggins).

SOUTH MELBOURNE.....(0) 1
Brown
HEIDELBERG UNITED.....(0) 0
Middle Park

South Melbourne: Laumets, Russell, McDowell, Blair, Postecoglou, Bozinovski, Halford, Crino (Vardaxis), Murphy, Brown, Egan.
Heidelberg United: Olver, McKie, Angele, Yankos, Marley, Christopoulos, Winn, Tasios, Metaxas, Selemidis, Tsolakis.

PRESTON.....(1) 3
Lane (2), Dobson
MELBOURNE CROATIA.....(2) 2
McIntosh, Ljubic
Connor Reserve

Preston: Traianedes, McMillan, Dunn, Dobson, Heys, Ilioski, Petrov, Opasinis, Gagic, Spink, Lane.
Melbourne Croatia: Runje, Curcio, McIntosh, Antolovic, Hannah, Biskic, Gojevic, Campbell, Deankovic (Curovic), Ward, Ljubic.

BRUNSWICK UNITED JUVENTUS.....(1) 3
Zinni, Sweeney, Cullen
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS.....(0) 0
Olympic Park

Brunswick United Juventus: Banovic, Lewis, Brown, Dowie, Campbell, Cullen, Wade, Petersen, Incantalupo, Zinni, Sweeney.
Sunshine George Cross: Kastner, James, Richardson, Bennett, Taylor, Bain (Lennon), Faulkner, MacLaren, Mitten, Latif, Gilder.

WEST ADELAIDE.....(1) 1
Price
FOOTSCRAY.....(3) 5
Belic (2), Lujic (2), Carroll
Hindmarsh Stadium

West Adelaide: Crook, Matiscsak (Papadopoulos), Brown, Hiern, Genikas, Manou, Panagis, Atsalas, Stamatelopoulos, Price.
Footscray: Boland, Karic, Kyriakouleas, MacLeod, Barjaktarevic, Tapai, Belic Kodjo, Paton (Lazopoulos), Carroll, Lujic.

BRISBANE LIONS.....(3) 3
Anderson, J. Stewart, Ogden
ADELAIDE CITY.....(0) 0
Richlands

Brisbane Lions: Evan, D. Hunter (Vasquez), Jackson, A. Hunter, Niven, Bassingthwaighte, R. Stewart, Ogden, Anderson (P. Redmond), J. Stewart, Wright.
Adelaide City: McNally, Santrac (Loungo), Nyskohus, Flounders, Tobin, Villani, Melta, Northcote, Maxwell, Mullen, Vidmar.

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**South Melb.**	19	12	4	3	31	19	28
2.	**Brunswick U.J.**	19	11	5	3	32	17	27
3.	**H'berg Utd.**	19	8	6	5	26	16	22
4.	**Melb. Croatia**	19	9	4	6	25	16	22
5.	**Preston**	19	9	3	7	28	26	21
6.	**Sunshine G.C.**	19	6	6	7	18	19	18
7.	**Brisbane Lions**	18	7	4	7	20	22	18
8.	**Adelaide City**	19	6	4	9	28	33	16
9.	**Green Gully**	19	5	5	9	21	25	15
10.	**Brisbane City**	18	6	3	9	24	35	15
11.	**West Adelaide**	19	5	4	10	21	33	14
12.	**Footscray**	19	4	2	13	23	36	10

ROUND 20
Northern Division

21st July
APIA LEICHHARDT.....(0) 0
CANBERRA CITY.....(1) 1
Sermanni
Lambert Park

Apia Leichhardt: Catlin, Sterrey, Mariani, Bertogna, Brown, Steven, McCulloch, Hamilton, Caban (Genovese), McBride, Morsello.
Canberra City: Franken, Mihailidis, Jones, Burke, Bryant, Dunn, Byrne, Sermanni, Gibson, Lamond, English.

PENRITH CITY.....(0) 0
SYDNEY OLYMPIC.....(1) 1
Kalantzis
Cook Park

Penrith City: Gibson, Brogan, Ainsworth (Toohey), Campbell, Cross, Wotherspoon, Hebb, Jackson, Hunter, Jones, Easthorpe (Licata).
Sydney Olympic: Meier, Rogers, Stankovic, Ziras, Jennings, Johnston, Raskopoulos, Katholos (Koussas), Ogun, Soper, Kalantzis.

SYDNEY CITY.....(0) 2
Farina (2)
NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED.....(0) 0
Sydney Athletic Field

Sydney City: Pezzano, Cant, Robertson, Gomez, De Marigny, Kay, Watson, P. Falconer, Farina, Kosmna, Lee.
Newcastle Rosebud United: Gosling, M. Jones, Boogaard, Milosevic, Thompson, Maier, MacQuarrie, Owens, Brandt, Senkalski, Naumov (Stewart).

WOLLONGONG CITY.....(0) 2
Stefanovski, Willis
ST. GEORGE.....(2) 2
Morgan, Koczka
Wollongong Showground

Wollongong City: Velkov, Green, Willis, Vlietstra, Gaffney, Dickson (Kotamanidis), Bundalo, Hristovski, Godzik, Brodnik, Marton (Stefanovski).
St. George: Greedy, Skeen, Ratcliffe, M. O'Shea, Koczka, J. O'Shea, Bozanic (Stone), Ricoy (Petkovski), Slater, Morgan, Cotton.

INTER MONARO.....(1) 1
Carbone
MARCONI.....(0) 0
Seiffert Oval

Inter Monaro: Hocking, Tuilawa, Budini, Titilas, Williams, Willox, Carbone, A. Ambrosino, Walsh (Santolin), Giampaolo, Brennan (Thamnidis).
Marconi: McPherson, Carter, Henderson, Calderan, Rizzotto (Gunning), Tredinnick, Mason, Gray, Jankovics (Sharne), Lowe, Brown.

SYDNEY CROATIA.....(3) 4
Jurin (3), Patikas
BLACKTOWN CITY.....(0) 0
Croatian Sports Centre

Sydney Croatia: Watson, Basic, Rozic, Vidaic (A. Kovacic), Rezo, Savor, Ozakov, Clinch, Jurin (Dragicevic), Arnold, Patikas.
Blacktown City: Hoare, Daley, Wheatley, Pointer, Spanos (Larkin), Selvage, Bradley, Bourke, Thornthwaite, O'Connor, McKie.

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**Syd. Croatia**	20	13	5	2	46	19	31
2.	**Syd. City**	19	12	5	2	35	17	29
3.	**Marconi**	20	11	6	3	40	21	28
4.	**Syd. Olympic**	20	11	2	7	24	22	24
5.	**St. George**	20	7	7	6	30	24	21
6.	**Canberra City**	20	8	5	7	30	30	21
7.	**Inter Monaro**	20	7	5	8	28	35	19
8.	**Blacktown City**	20	7	3	10	29	30	17
9.	**Leichhardt**	19	6	1	12	19	32	13
10.	**Wollongong**	20	4	5	11	25	45	13
11.	**Penrith City**	20	3	6	11	20	28	12
12.	**Newcastle**	20	3	4	13	18	41	10

ROUND 20
Southern Division

21st July
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS.....(1) 3
Mitten (2), Latif
BRISBANE LIONS.....(1) 2
Wright, J. Stewart
Chaplin Reserve

Sunshine George Cross: Kastner, James, Bennett, Richardson, Scerri, Mitten, Faulkner, MacLaren, Bain, Gilder, Latif.
Brisbane Lions: Evans, D. Hunter, Jackson, A. Hunter, Niven, Bassingthwaighte, R. Stewart, Ogden (Daunt), Anderson, J. Stewart, Wright.

WEST ADELAIDE.....(1) 2
Genikas, Panagis
GREEN GULLY.....(0) 0
Hindmarsh Stadium

West Adelaide: M. Crook, McGachey, Hiern (Matiscsak), Brown, Mousoulis, Genikas, Manou, Honeyman, Panagis, Stamatelopoulos, Price (Stefanopoulos).
Green Gully: Denys, Young, McLelland, Cannell, Hogben, Cumming, Williams, Smallman, Campbell, Lucchesi, Lewis.

MELBOURNE CROATIA.....(0) 1
Ward
SOUTH MELBOURNE.....(0) 1
Egan
Olympic Park

Melbourne Croatia: Runje, Deankovic, McIntosh, Antolovic, Hannah, Biskic, Curovic, Campbell, Ljubic (Curcio), Ward, Markovic (House)
South Melbourne: Laumets, Russell, McDowell, Blair, Postecoglou, Bozinovski, Halford, Crino, Vardaxis (Kanesoulis), Brown, Egan.

HEIDELBERG UNITED.....(1) 1
Stevenson
BRUNSWICK UNITED JUVENTUS.....(0) 0
Olympic Village

Heidelberg United: Olver, McKie, Angele, Yankos, Marley, Christopoulos, Winn, Tsolakis (Metaxas), Tasios, Stevenson, Selemidis.
Brunswick United Juventus: Banovic, Lewis, Brown, Dowie, Campbell, Cullen, Wade, Petersen, Incantalupo, Zinni, Sweeney.

BRISBANE CITY.....(0) 0
PRESTON.....(0) 0
Spencer Park

Brisbane City: Wishart, Archer, Wilkinson, Milovanovic, Bromfield, Mengotti, Pimblett, Hamilton, Fabrizio, Reis, Scriggins (Glockner)
Preston: Traianedes, Opasinis, McMillan, Dobson, Heys, Petrov, Dunn, Ilioski, Cole, Lane, Spink.

FOOTSCRAY.....(1) 1
Lujic
ADELAIDE CITY.....(0) 0
Schintler Reserve

Footscray: Boland, Barjaktarevic, MacLeod, Kyriakouleas, Karic, Tapai, Kodjo, Belic, Carroll (Lazopoulos), Paton, Lujic.
Adelaide City: McNally, Luongo, Flounders, Nyskohus, Tobin, Melta, McAdam (Santrac), Mullen, Maxwell, Villani, Vidmar.

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**South Melb.**	20	12	5	3	32	20	29
2.	**Brunswick U.J.**	20	11	5	4	32	18	27
3.	**H'berg Utd.**	20	9	6	5	27	16	24
4.	**Melb. Croatia**	20	9	5	6	26	17	23
5.	**Preston**	20	9	4	7	28	26	22
6.	**Sunshine G.C.**	20	7	6	7	21	21	20
7.	**Brisbane Lions**	19	7	4	8	22	25	18
8.	**Adelaide City**	20	6	4	10	28	34	16
9.	**West Adelaide**	20	6	4	10	23	33	16
10.	**West Adelaide**	19	6	4	9	24	35	16
11.	**Green Gully**	20	5	5	10	21	27	15
12.	**Footscray**	20	5	5	13	24	36	12

ROUND 13
Deferred Fixture
Northern Division

24th July
SYDNEY CITY.....(1) 2
Gomez, Barnes
APIA LEICHHARDT.....(0) 0
St. George Stadium

Sydney City: Pezzano, Cant, Robertson, O'Connor, De Marigny, Gomez, Watson, Barnes, Farina, Lee, Fletcher.
Apia Leichhardt: Catlin, Sterrey (Spina), Mariani, Rowden, Brown, Bertogna, Steven, Hamilton, Colagiuri, McBride, Morsello (Caban).

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**Syd. Croatia**	20	13	5	2	46	19	31
2.	**Syd. City**	20	13	5	2	37	17	31
3.	**Marconi**	20	11	6	3	40	21	28
4.	**Syd. Olympic**	20	11	2	7	24	22	24
5.	**St. George**	20	7	7	6	30	24	21
6.	**Canberra City**	20	8	5	7	30	30	21
7.	**Inter Monaro**	20	7	5	8	28	35	19
8.	**Blacktown City**	20	7	3	10	29	30	17
9.	**Leichhardt**	20	6	1	13	19	34	13
10.	**Wollongong**	20	4	5	11	25	45	13
11.	**Penrith City**	20	3	6	11	20	28	12
12.	**Newcastle**	20	3	4	13	18	41	10

POWER®

makes the DIFFERENCE...

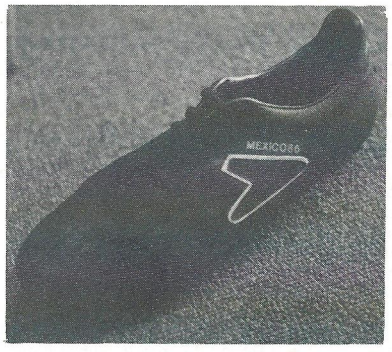
POWER ATHLETIC FOOTWEAR ENTERS THE FOOTBALL MARKET

Power Athletic Footwear has a range of soccer boots that will stir up interest in Australia.

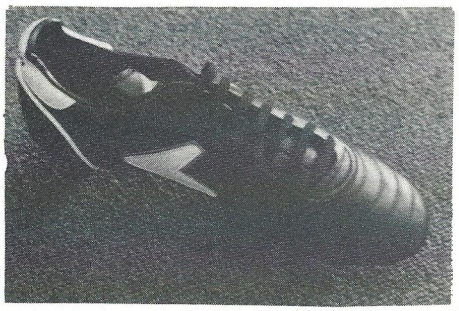
Power is a new range of high performance sports shoes that is targeting itself at several specialised sports areas. It is already known and popular in indoor sports, especially squash and badminton.

Power's move into soccer, however, will be its biggest undertaking and Australian soccer can't lose. Power is part of the largest shoe manufacturer and retailer in the world —

THE BATA SHOE ORGANISATION



Shown at right: The **"Mexico 86"** boot has a moulded sole with a pattern leather upper. It features spider web stitching around the toe and vamp to give strength to the toe area while keeping it flexible as well. The **"Mexico 86"** features a 15 stud network on the sole to give added stability and support for controlled movement in all turf conditions.



Shown at left: The **"Strike"** is a superb football boot. Features are a removable stud, two density nylon sole. The full grain leather upper has a flex-point toe cap. The multi stitching allows for grip and control during kicking. It has a specially strong heel counter for achilles tendon support.

POWER SPORTS FOOTWEAR A Division of: BATA SHOE COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD. (Incorporated in Victoria)

1158 Nepean Highway, Mornington, Victoria 3931

Phone: (059) 75 4111. Telex: BATA AA32614. Cables: BATASHOE MELBOURNE.

ROUND 21
Northern Division

27th July
NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED.....(1) 1
Stewart
INTER MONARO.....(0) 0
Adamstown Oval

Newcastle Rosebud United: Gosling, M. Jones, Owens, Boogaard, Thompson, Maier, MacQuarrie, Naumov, Stewart, Brandt, Milosevic.
Inter Monaro: Hocking, Tuilawa, Budini, Titilas, Williams, Willox, Carbone, A. Ambrosino (Gagetti), Brennan, Walsh (Santolin), Giampaolo.

ST. GEORGE.....(0) 0
SYDNEY CITY.....(1) 1
Kosmina
St. George Stadium

St. George: Greedy, Skeen, Ratcliffe, Koczka, Green, Bozanic (Barton), J. O'Shea, Ricoy, Slater, Petkovski, Cotton.
Sydney City: Pezzano, Cant, Robertson, O'Connor, De Marigny, Gomez, P. Falconer, Barnes, Farina, Kosmina, Lee.

28th July
MARCONI.....(2) 6
Jankovics (3), Brown (2), Lowe
PENRITH CITY.....(0) 0
Marconi Stadium

Marconi: McPherson (James), Sterrey, Henderson, Calderan, Rizzotto, Gray (Sharne), Mason, Tredinnick, Jankovics, Brown, Lowe.
Penrith City: Gibson, Brogan, Cross, Ainsworth, Toohey, Campbell, Wotherspoon, Jackson, Hunter (Shute), Jones (Easthorpe), Licata.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC.....(3) 3
Raskopoulos, Soper, Kalantzis
SYDNEY CROATIA.....(1) 1
Odzakov
St. George Stadium

Sydney Olympic: Meier, Rogers, Stankovic, Ziras, Jennings, Johnston, Raskopoulos, Katholos, Ogun, Soper, Kalantzis.
Sydney Croatia: Watson, Basic (Dragicevic), Rozic, Rezo, Tomasich, Savor, Odzakov, Clinch, Jurin, Arnold, Patikas.

BLACKTOWN CITY.....(0) 1
Bradley
APIA LEICHHARDT.....(0) 1
Caban
Gabbie Stadium

Blacktown City: Hoare, Daley (Skellern, Van Edmond), Wheatley, Pointer, Spanos, Thorthwaite, Bradley, Selvage, Bourke, McKie, O'Connor.
Apia Leichhardt: Catlin, Sterrey, Bertogna, Rowden, Brown, Steven, McCulloch, Hamilton, Caban, McBride (Genovese), Morsello.

CANBERRA CITY.....(0) 1
English
WOLLONGONG CITY.....(0) 1
Bundalo
National Sports Centre

Canberra City: Franken, Mihailidis, Jones, Burke, Bryant, Sermanni, Byrne, Dunn, Gibson, Lamond, English.
Wollongong City: Velkov, Green, Willis, Vlietstra, Gaffney, Kotamanidis (Stafanovski), Bundalo, Dickson, Brodnik, Godzik, Marton.

* On 30th June Marconi defeated APIA Leichhardt 4-0 in a Round 17 match. Subsequently APIA Leichhardt protested that Marconi fielded an ineligible player. This protest was upheld by the NSL Executive. As a result the match has been awarded to APIA Leichhardt with the four goals scored by Marconi having been deducted from the 'goals for' and also adjusted against APIA Leichhardt's 'goals against'.

Below is the updated League Table.

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**Syd. City**	21	14	5	2	38	17	33
2.	**Syd. Croatia**	21	13	5	3	47	22	31
3.	**Marconi**	21	11	6	4	42	21	28
4.	**Syd. Olympic**	21	12	2	7	27	23	26
5.	**Canberra City**	21	8	6	7	31	31	22
6.	**St. George**	21	7	7	7	30	25	21
7.	**Inter Monaro**	21	7	5	9	28	36	19
8.	**Blacktown City**	21	7	4	10	30	31	18
9.	**Leichhardt**	21	7	2	12	20	31	16
10.	**Wollongong**	21	4	6	11	26	46	14
11.	**Penrith City**	21	3	6	12	20	34	12
12.	**Newcastle**	21	4	4	13	19	41	12

ROUND 21
Southern Division

28th July
PRESTON.....(1) 1
Cole
WEST ADELAIDE.....(0) 1
Price
Connor Reserve

Preston: Traianedes, Opasinis, Dunn, Dobson, Heys, Gagic (Smith), Petrov, Ilioski, Lane, Spink, Cole.
West Adelaide: M. Crook, McGachey, Brown, Matiscsak, Stamatelopoulso (Scott), Manou, Panagis, Mousoulis, Genikas, Stefanopoulos, Price.

GREEN GULLY.....(2) 2
Lewis (2)
FOOTSCRAY.....(0) 1
Green Gully Reserve

Green Gully: Denys, Young, McLelland, Cannell, Hogben, Cumming, Smallman, Williams, Lucchesi, Lewis, Campbell (Smart).
Footscray: Boland, Karic, Barjaktarevic, Kyriakouleas, MacLeod, Kodjo, Belic, O'Donnell (Carroll), Lazopoulos, Paton (Tapai), Lujic.

BRUNSWICK UNITED JUVENTUS.....(1) 1
Zinni
MELBOURNE CROATIA.....(0) 1
Campbell
Olympic Park No. 2

Brunswick United Juventus: Banovic, Lewis, Dowie, Brown, Campbell, Cullen, Wade, Petersen, Incantalupo, Sweeney (Miranda), Zinni.
Melbourne Croatia: Runje, Deankovic, McIntosh, Antolovic, Hannah, Curcio (House), Cristaldo, Campbell, Ljubic, Ward, Gojevic.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.....(1) 4
Egan, McDowell, Crino, Brown
BRISBANE CITY.....(0) 1
Pimblett
Middle Park

South Melbourne: Laumets, Russell, Blair, McDowell, Postecoglou, Bozinovski, Halford, crino, Murphy, Egan, Brown.
Brisbane City: Wishart, Archer, Wilkinson, Milovanovic, Bromfield, Fabrizio (Carey), Pimblett, Mengotti, Hamilton, Reis, Scriggins.

ADELAIDE CITY.....(0) 1
Villani
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS.....(0) 1
Lennon
Olympic Sports Field

Adelaide City: McNally, Luongo, Tobin, Nyskohus, Flounders, Melta, Northcote (Santrac), Villani, Mullen, Maxwell, Vidmar.
Sunshine George Cross: Kastner, Scerri (Campelj), Richardson, James, Taylor, Faulkner, Bain, Mitten (Lennon), MacLaren, Gilder, Latif.

BRISBANE LIONS.....(1) 1
J. Stewart
HEIDELBERG UNITED.....(0) 2
Tasios Tsolakis
Richlands

Brisbane Lions: Evans, D. Hunter, A. Hunter, Vasquez, Niven, Jackson, R. Stewart, Ogden, Bassingthwaighte (Anderson), Wright, J. Stewart.
Heidelberg United: Olver, McKie (Valentine), Yankos, Angele, Katsakidis, Tasios, Christopoulos, Winn, Tsolakis, Selemidis, Stevenson (Metaxas).

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**South Melb.**	21	13	5	3	36	21	31
2.	**Brunswick U.J.**	21	11	6	4	33	19	28
3.	**H'berg Utd.**	21	10	6	5	29	17	26
4.	**Melb. Croatia**	21	9	6	6	27	18	24
5.	**Preston**	21	9	5	7	29	27	23
6.	**Sunshine G.C.**	21	7	7	7	22	22	21
7.	**Brisbane Lions**	20	7	4	9	23	27	18
8.	**Green Gully**	21	6	5	10	23	28	17
9.	**Adelaide City**	21	6	5	10	29	35	17
10.	**West Adelaide**	21	6	5	10	24	34	17
11.	**Brisbane City**	20	6	4	10	25	39	16
12.	**Footscray**	21	5	2	14	25	38	12

POOLS
SIX-38
JACKPOTS UNTIL SOMEBODY WINS

ROUND 12
Deferred Fixture
Southern Division

11th August
BRISBANE LIONS.....(0) 3
A. Hunter, McClurg, Anderson
BRISBANE CITY.....(0) 0
Richlands

Brisbane Lions: Evans, Jackson (Daunt), Vasques, A. Hunter, Niven, Anderson, J. Stewart, Ogden, D. Hunter, McClurg, Wright.
Brisbane City: Wishart, Fabrizio, Bromfield, Archea, Milovanovic (Carey), Junna, Pimblett, Mengotti, Hamilton, Scriggins, Reis (Glockner)

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**South Melb.**	21	13	5	3	36	21	31
2.	**Brunswick U.J.**	21	11	6	4	33	19	28
3.	**H'berg Utd.**	21	10	6	5	29	17	26
4.	**Melb. Croatia**	21	9	6	6	27	18	24
5.	**Preston**	21	9	5	7	29	27	23
6.	**Sunshine G.C.**	21	7	7	7	22	22	21
7.	**Brisbane Lions**	21	8	4	9	26	27	20
8.	**Green Gully**	21	6	5	10	23	28	17
9.	**Adelaide City**	21	6	5	10	29	35	17
10.	**West Adelaide**	21	6	5	10	24	34	17
11.	**Brisbane City**	21	6	4	11	25	42	16
12.	**Footscray**	21	5	2	14	25	38	12

ROUND 22
Northern Division

18th August

Syd. Croatia	3	v	Leichhardt	0
Syd. Olympic	2	v	Marconi	2
Penrith	4	v	Newcastle	1
Inter Monaro	1	v	St. George	1
Syd. City	4	v	Canberra City	2
Wollongong City	3	v	Blacktown City	0

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**Syd. City**	22	15	5	2	42	19	35
2.	**Syd. Croatia**	22	14	5	3	50	22	33
3.	**Marconi**	22	11	7	4	44	23	29
4.	**Syd. Olympic**	22	12	3	7	29	25	27
5.	**St. George**	22	7	8	7	31	26	22
6.	**Canberra City**	22	8	6	8	33	35	22
7.	**Inter Monaro**	22	7	6	9	29	37	20
8.	**Blacktown City**	22	7	4	11	30	34	18
9.	**Leichhardt**	22	7	2	13	20	34	16
10.	**Wollongong**	22	5	6	11	29	46	16
11.	**Penrith City**	22	4	6	12	24	35	14
12.	**Newcastle**	22	4	4	14	20	45	12

ROUND 22
Southern Division

18th August

Footscray	0	v	Sunshine G.C.	3
Green Gully	1	v	Preston	1
West Adelaide	0	v	South Melb.	3
Brisbane City	0	v	Brunswick U.J.	0
Melb. Croatia	2	v	Brisbane Lions	3
H'berg Utd.	0	v	Adelaide City	0

POINTS TABLE

		P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1.	**South Melb.**	22	14	5	3	39	21	33
2.	**Brunswick U.J.**	22	11	7	4	33	19	29
3.	**H'berg Utd.**	22	10	7	5	29	17	27
4.	**Melb. Croatia**	22	9	6	7	29	21	24
5.	**Preston**	22	9	6	7	30	28	24
6.	**Sunshine G.C.**	22	8	7	7	25	22	23
7.	**Brisbane Lions**	22	9	4	9	29	29	22
8.	**Green Gully**	22	6	6	10	24	29	18
9.	**Adelaide City**	22	6	6	10	29	35	18
10.	**West Adelaide**	22	6	5	11	24	37	17
11.	**Brisbane City**	22	6	5	11	25	42	17
12.	**Footscray**	22	5	2	15	25	41	12

THE KODAK KIDS IN CHINA
How They Fared

NIGERIA FIRST-EVER UNDER-16 CHAMPION

1st FIFA Under-16 World Tournament — The Kodak Cup
People's Republic of China, 31st July - 11th August, 1985

Match No.				Date	
FIRST ROUND					
GROUP A					
1	China P.R.	—	Bolivia	31-7-85	1-1
5	Guinea	—	U.S.A.	31-7-85	1-0
9	China P.R.	—	Guinea	2-8-85	2-0
13	Bolivia	—	U.S.A.	2-8-85	1-2
17	China P.R.	—	U.S.A.	4-8-85	3-1
21	Bolivia	—	Guinea	4-8-85	0-3
GROUP B					
2	Australia	—	Argentina	31-7-85	1-0
6	Congo	—	West Germany	31-7-85	1-4
10	Australia	—	Congo	2-8-85	2-1
14	Argentina	—	West Germany	2-8-85	1-1
18	Australia	—	West Germany	4-8-85	1-0
22	Argentina	—	Congo	4-8-85	4-2
GROUP C					
3	Saudi Arabia	—	Costa Rica	31-7-85	4-1
7	Nigeria	—	Italy	31-7-85	1-0
11	Saudi Arabia	—	Nigeria	2-8-85	0-0
15	Costa Rica	—	Italy	2-8-85	0-2
19	Saudi Arabia	—	Italy	4-8-85	3-1
23	Costa Rica	—	Nigeria	4-8-85	0-3
GROUP D					
4	Qatar	—	Brazil	31-7-85	1-2
8	Mexico	—	Hungary	31-7-85	0-0
12	Qatar	—	Mexico	2-8-85	1-3
16	Brazil	—	Hungary	2-8-85	0-1
20	Qatar	—	Hungary	4-8-85	0-3
24	Brazil	—	Mexico	4-8-85	2-0
SECOND ROUND					
25	China	—	West Germany	7-8-85	2-4
26	Australia	—	Guinea	7-8-85	0-0
				(Guinea won on penalties)	
27	Saudi Arabia	—	Brazil	7-8-85	1-2
28	Hungary	—	Nigeria	7-8-85	1-3
SEMI-FINALS					
29	Brazil	—	West Germany	9-8-85	2-4
30	Nigeria	—	Guinea	9-8-85	1-1
				(Nigeria won on penalties)	
FINALS					
31	Brazil	—	Guinea	11-8-85	4-1
32	Nigeria	—	West Germany	11-8-85	2-0

CHINA'S OVER —

As the Under/16 team returned from China without any medals, but with plenty of credit, the Australian Youth team was about to leave for the USSR to take part in the fifth FIFA Coca-Cola Cup, which since 1981 has the status of being the World Youth Championship.

The World Youth Championship is second only in status to the World Cup itself in the eyes of FIFA, and this one has a special significance for Australia in view of the new rules for participation in the Olympic Games.

After grappling for years with the problem of 'shamateurism', the Olympic Games organising committee has decided to allow nations to enter their Under/23 teams in the next Games, with the only proviso that no player who has played a full International is eligible.

Thus, by the time Seoul 1988 comes round, most of the members of the current Youth squad will form the nucleus of our Olympic Games squad, so its Performance in the USSR will be keenly watched.

And watched it will be too, by Australians, thanks to Channel SBS TV. SBS has secured the exclusive rights to the tournament, and will commence it's live coverage at 12.55 a.m. on Sunday August 25 (12.25 a.m. in Adelaide).

This will be the opening game of the Tournament, when Australia takes on host nation the USSR in Minsk, probably the Aussie's toughest test in their preliminary group.

The other countries in Australia's group are Canada and Nigeria and the game against Canada will be televised on Wednesday August 28 at 12.55 a.m. (Adelaide 12.25 a.m.), and the one against Nigeria on Friday August 30 at 12.55 a.m. (Adelaide 12.25 a.m.).

Two countries from each group go forward to the quarter-finals, and if Australia qualifies, it will meet the winner or runner-up from Group D comprising England, Mexico, China or Paraguay.

The quarter-final games will be played on September 1, the semi-finals on September 4, and the Final itself on September 7 in Moscow.

Whatever Australia's fate, SBS/TV will screen the final live on Sunday September 8 commencing 12.55 a.m. (Adelaide 12.25 a.m.).

As well as the actual telecasts themselves, SBS will be giving as much coverage as possible to the other games in which Australia doesn't figure, and as well, on Saturday August 24, at 6 p.m. (Adelaide 5.30 p.m.), there will be a

Match Programme

	Group A *Hungary* *Colombia* *Tunisia* *Bulgaria*	**Group B** *Ireland Rep.* *Brazil* *Saudi Arabia* *Spain*	**Group C** *USSR* *Australia* *Nigeria* *Canada*	**Group D** *England* *Paraguay* *China PR* *Mexico*
	YEREVAN	TBILISSI	MINSK	BAKU
24.8.85	1 15.00 Hungary v. Colombia 5 19.00 Tunisia v. Bulgaria	2 15.00 Ireland Rep. v. Brazil 6 19.00 Saudi Arabia v. Spain	3 19.00 USSR v. Australia 7 15.00 Nigeria v. Canada	4 15.00 England v. Paraguay 8 19.00 China PR v. Mexico
26.8.85	9 19.00 Hungary v. Tunisia 13 19.00 Colombia v. Bulgaria	10 19.00 Ireland Rep. v. Saudi Arabia 14 19.00 Brazil v. Spain	11 19.00 USSR v. Nigeria 15 19.00 Australia v. Canada	12 19.00 England v. China PR 16 19.00 Paraguay v. Mexico
29.8.85	17 19.00 Hungary v. Bulgaria 21 19.00 Colombia v. Tunisia	18 19.00 Ireland Rep. v. Spain 22 19.00 Brazil v. Saudi Arabia	19 19.00 USSR v. Canada 23 19.00 Australia v. Nigeria	20 19.00 England v. Mexico 24 19.00 Paraguay v. China PR
Quarter Finals				
1.9.85	25 19.00 1A v. 2B	26 19.00 1B v. 2A	27 17.00 1C v. 2D	28 17.00 1D v. 2C

Semi-Finals		
4.9.85	29 19.00	Winner Match 25 v. Winner Match 27 (in Moscow)
	30 18.00	Winner Match 26 v. Winner Match 28 (in Leningrad)
Match for 3rd place		
7.9.85	31 13.00	Loser Match 29 v. Loser Match 30 (in Moscow)
Final		
7.9.85	32 19.00	Winner Match 29 v. Winner Match 30 (in Moscow)

Medal Winners till today:

	Winner	*Runner-up*	*Third*
Tunisia 1977	USSR	Mexico	Brazil
Japan 1979	Argentina	USSR	Uruguay
Australia 1981	Germany FR	Qatar	Rumania
Mexico 1983	Brazil	Argentina	Poland

NOW FOR RUSSIA!

special edition of 'World Soccer' devoted entirely to the 1985 World Youth Championship, the countries taking part and a detailed look at the Aussie players.

Youth team coach Jim Shoulder will be under no illusions as to the size of the task before him and his players if this squad is to succeed, or even emulate the feat of the 1983 Australian team in Mexico.

That team, you will remember, covered itself in glory by beating European champion Scotland before it fell from grace and was eliminated by unfancied South Korea.

The squad which left Sydney on August 9 will spend ten days in Holland, at the superb Dutch National Sports Centre in Sittard. Whilst quartered there, the young Socceroos will play three warm-up matches which will be vital to Shoulder's endeavours to weld a team together.

The Youths' last match in Australia turned into a disaster as a lively NSW squad turned its defence inside-out and won 5-0. But too much should not be read into that result, as long as the lesson is absorbed.

Whilst the midfield and attack acquitted itself well enough in that defeat, it was obvious that captain and sweeper Andrew Bernal, now with Sporting Gijon in Spain, was sorely missed. Sporting was supposed to have agreed to release Bernal for his country, but seems to have forgotten about the promise. Bernal's role will now probably have to be filled by St. George utility player Andrew Koczka.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM — 1985: WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS, U.S.S.R.

Back row: Mirko Runje, John Gregson, Aki Kotzamichalis, Andrew Koczka, Mark Jones, John Panagis, Angelos Postekos. *Middle row:* Dr. S. Kannanngara (Team Doctor), Henry Wajswelner (Physiotherapist), Alex Bundalo, Sean Ingham, Paul Jones, Warren Spink, Richard Bassingthwaighte, Jim Shoulder (Team Coach), Brian Emery (Executive Director). *Front row:* Michael McLennan, Peter Petkovski, David Sharpe, Robert Hooker, Cris Kalantzis, Loucas Hristodoulou.

Photograph courtesy of The Daily Mirror, Sydney

FIFA U-16
WORLD TOURNAMENT
FOR THE
KODAK CUP
CHINA 1985

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our Number 1 FIFA Referee **Chris Bambridge** who refereed the Under-16 World Championship Final won 2-0 by Nigeria over West Germany.

Congratulations also to **Craig Foster** of Lismore, N.S.W. who has been picked for World Under-16 XI. Craig also played for the Australian Under-16 side which toured China for the World Tournament Kodak Cup.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE SPECTATORS GONE?

An Independent Report **By BOB BRIAN**

They seek them here, they seek them there, they seek those supporters everywhere.

Unfortunately the National League clubs are having about as much luck as Robespiere's minions had in tracking down the Scarlet Pimpernel.

The Missing thousands are causing grave concern to soccer in general and the current season has proved to be the worst yet for attendances.

The fact is that the game is failing as a spectator sport and unless something happens to reverse the trend, the future of a national competition must be questionable.

Already in Melbourne there have been secret meetings between club officials in an effort to find a solution, but there has been little agreement.

Some want a return to a 12 or 14 club elite League. Others want to move in the other direction and scrap the competition completely and go back to the State League system.

In between there is a move to get rid of the Adelaide and Brisbane clubs altogether because it is felt with some justification that they are poor crowd pullers.

As far as I know no one has suggested that the game accepts responsibility for the decline in interest and take appropriate steps to improve things.

For instance, facilities for supporters have improved little and in some cases not at all since the National League was formed in 1977.

There is no doubt that Spartan conditions are not popular in a winter sport.

Then there is the question of entertainment value for money and this has sadly suffered a recession since the number of temporary visa players was restricted.

The Australian Soccer Federation was premature in trying to force clubs to give home grown players a chance.

There just wasn't enough of them good enough and the standard of play and entertainment suffered.

Put the two — sub-standard facilities and mediocre entertainment — together, add an admission fee of $5 and there had to be a revolt.

Just how critical the situation has become can be seen by the plight of South Melbourne Hellas.

South's attendance has dropped by about 40 per cent. It may just finish the season in the black. But to do that it has had to finish top of the Southern Division and take part in the top five competition.

Other clubs, even those in the top five, have not been so fortunate. They are looking at substantial financial losses with no apparent way to relieve the burden.

The one thing you can be sure of is that when the powerful South struggles, the others are in a much worse state.

And it is getting far smaller crowds now — following a National Championship win and in line for another — than it did when it finished bottom of the Phillips League in 1979.

Not surprisingly, it is one of the clubs pressing hard for a return of one division of the National League.

As President Jim Diamataris point outs "Our fans want to see the top teams from Sydney.

"It's the old inter-city rivalry as well as the prospect of seeing the best players in Australia that gets them in.

In short, what is missing from the present competition is glamour.

While our international team under Frank Arok is creating household names like Oscar Crino, Charlie Yankos, Kenny Murphy, John Kosmina, Marshall Soper, David Ratcliffe, Terry Greedy etc., their audience is restricted because of the split competition.

One need only look at the success of Sydney Croatia this season to see that the star system works.

While it is true that all clubs cannot afford to buy star players they can benefit from other clubs having them because of the extra support they attract.

If there is one thing Australian soccer should have learned by now it is that survival depends on working together.

Editor's Note: This article is an independent report and contains the personal views of the author. These views are not necessarily those of the NSL and are printed in good faith and in the spirit of our sport.

Travelodge

James Hardie Spicers

No. 1 on paper

As part of our on going commitment to community involvement, we are proud to be associated with the OLYMPIC AIRWAYS SOCCER LEAGUE.

Sydney
534 5544

Melbourne
497 1611

Adelaide
356 6166

Perth
350 6386

Brisbane
369 0477

Townsville
71 3461

Launceston
34 1588

James Hardie Spicers

A Division of James Hardie Paper and Packaging Limited (Incorporated in New South Wales)

. . . THIS IS 3EA, YOUR SOCCER STATION

Jose Montez makes a point.

Radio 3EA, the Special Broadcasting Service's Melbourne radio station, can proudly and truthfully boast that it is first in Australia on Saturday and Sunday nights with all the results, both National and State.

First, did we say . . . make that only in most cases, for 3EA's coverage is unique in Australia. Melbourne soccer fans to a man tune in at 6 p.m. every Saturday for the State, Victorian and Provisional League results, and again on Sunday at the same time for the National League results, scorers and tables.

In five minutes on each of the two nights, sports producer Jose Montes and his staff give a complete, comprehensive and objective view of the weekend's soccer and follow it up at 6 a.m. on Monday morning (repeated at 11 p.m. the same night), with match reports from all the National League venues.

That adds up to more air-time than any other station in Australia devotes to soccer, but 3EA's commitment doesn't end there.'

As befits a station that broadcasts in no fewer than 54 languages, it tries to transmit live soccer from every corner of the globe where soccer is played. On Saturday nights it's the enormously popular BBC Grandstand, with news and interval scores from all the British games, then a kick by kick commentary on the second half of the match of the day and finally all the results. On Sundays it's the equally popular Italian programe 'Tutti calcio minutio per minutio', which has the same format, and other times live commentary of top games from Greece, Turkey, Yugoslavia, Portugal, Spain, Hungary, Egypt, Holland, France, West Germany, Russia and Poland. Next to be tried will be South Korea, Japan and China.

This veritable soccer Tower of Babel has come about through the drive, urging and insistence of one man, Jose Montes.

Argentinian-born Montes, who arrived in Australia via America has been in broadcasting for 30 of his 46 years, and has been a soccer fanatic for as long. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, he was one of 3EA's first broadcasters when the station was opened, along with Sydney's 2EA in 1975. The only South American club playing in Melbourne at that time was Chilean-backed Hotham United, and Montes used to go to Hotham's games in the Provisional League and relay live reports from the ground back to the studio, during the Spanish programme.

He soon realised the need for a results service, and persuaded the then station manager, John D'Andrea to ask the Italian programme, aired at 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, to give up five minutes of their time which they willingly did and have done so ever since.

But it took SBS management a long time to accept the universal popularity of soccer and to appreciate the hold it has on the affections of all migrants, regardless of their country of origin.

One objection that was constantly raised by the various committees advising SBS was that most of the soccer broadcasts were in English, but as Montes himself says, all migrants, from soccer-loving countries understand English, whatever their native language, because English is the lingua franca of soccer, as well as being its official language

The objections have largely died away now, to such an extent that when the recent Connor report on the future of SBS was being prepared, all language groups, when asked for their opinion, said that they accepted that soccer played a very large part in their group's broadcasting.

Wherever soccer fans in Melbourne gather, they talk enthusiastically of 3EA's soccer programmes, which makes SBS management's reluctance to recognise their popularity all the more baffling. Maybe if the top brass were to descend from their ivory tower in Sydney and mix more with their listeners they might have a better understanding of what those listeners want.

It is no exaggeration to say that Jose Montes caters to a wider audience than all the other journalists in Melbourne, print medium or any other medium, put together.

But popularity means nothing when budgets are being considered, and different hobby-horses have to be pandered to. Now another threat is looming, that of the ABC. Whilst the ABC's recently declared interest in taking over SBS poses more of a threat to SBS TV than to its 'little brother' radio, nobody in soccer wants to see the ABC get its hands on 3EA and 2EA, because knowing the attitude of ABC journalists to soccer, it would mean the end of soccer broadcasts as we know them.

— Les Shorrock

Ansett.
The only airline in the world that offers you 6 star service.

APIA LEICHHARDT

A Sleeping Giant

By BRAD EARL

Be prepared to see a resurgence of Apia Leichhardt as a force in Australian soccer in 1986.

That's the message from a man who saw the great days of Apia as a player and who is currently laying the fondations for a return to the top for the Olympic Airways Soccer League outfit.

He is Archie Blue, appointed as the club's full-time general manager earlier this year.

Blue, an Australian international striker in the 1960s, is one of four former Apia star players who are currently involved with the Ricoh-sponsored club.

The others are coach Fil Bottalico, his assistant Cliff Van Blerk and Graham McKinnon who is involved with junior coaching.

The list of "name" players who have worn the famous claret and blue of Apia is a long one.

John Watkiss, Pat Hughes, Peter Wilson, Stan Ackerley, Joe Marston, George Keith, Johnny Giacometti and Jimmy Rooney are well-known stars of the past.

The best years of Apia's 31-year history were from 1964 to 1969 and 1975-76.

A common name through those glorious years was Fil Bottalico. From captain of the famous side of the '60s, Bottalico led Apia to Success in the '70s as coach.

The same man has just seen Apia through a season of despair as they valiantly fought to avoid relegation from the OASL.

The season was even more depressing in light of Apia's good performance in 1984 when they finished fourth.

However, the loss of six players in the off-season tore the heart out of Apia's OSL team.

Goalkeeper Bob Parks, defenders Vic Bozanic and Mark Pullen, midfielders Ian Gray and Peter Tredinnick and striker John Bradley left the club.

Apia's only move into the transfer market brought socceroo midfielder Tommy McCulloch to the club from Marconi for a fee of $22,000.

Blue explains that Apia also sought to buy John Kosmina or Marshall Soper to strengthen their attack, but their bids were unsuccessful.

Berti Mariani returned to the club after a season with Marconi, Ian Rowden came out of retirement, while several young players were promoted from the reserve team.

But injuries took their toll and at various stages of the season more players were drafted into the squad.

Tragically, two of the new signings were seriously injured in their very first match for the club — full-back Howard Tredinnick, signed on loan from Parramatta Melita, and striker Louis Dounis, a $3,000 buy from Canterbury-Marrickville.

Jimmy Hamilton came from Scotland to boost the creativity of Apia's midfield, while former Sydney Croatia players Glenn Sterrey and Tom Steven added more experience to the first team in the latter half of the season.

Apia also acquired the services of Scottish striker Jim McBride for six of the last seven matches of the season.

"Player for player, our squad is as good as any in the League," Blue said.

He claims Apia have probably promoted more juniors into the senior squad than any rival club. Players like goalkeeper Bob Catlin, defenders Carlo Spina, Frank Casacchia and Mark Brown, and attackers Vince Colagiuri, Robbie De Ceglie and Tony Genovese have all come through from the youth team in the last couple of years.

However, Apia's crowds have not increased in response to the introduction of young local players.

In fact, Apia have struggled to draw 1,000 spectators to games at their historic Lambert Park home in the inner Sydney suburb of Leichhardt.

Blue says the Italian migrants who form the bulk of Apia's traditionally strong support will return — given a winning team.

That is why the club's number one task for 1986 will be to sign capable experienced players to provide more on-field direction for the younger players.

The guiding lights this year have been central defenders Mariani and Arno Bertogna and midfielders Hamilton and Terry Butler.

Butler is the only player from the victorious 1975-76 still with the club and he said the current season is the worst one he has experienced in 15 years with Apia.

"We haven't put the same team on the park two weeks running," Butler said.

"I think we've got the basis of a good team and now it's a matter of getting experienced players."

THE PLAYERS

Bob Catlin: goalkeeper, 20, from Manly juniors. Made his debut in 1984 but only took over as number one this season when Bob Parks was transferred in his job to South Australia.

Glen Sterrey: right-back, only recently came into the first team but has been impressive in defence. A regular member of Sydney Croatia's 1982 State League winning side under present Apia coach Fil Bottalico. Missed the following two seasons due to injury.

Carlo Spina: right-back, 18, NSW state junior rep. In first year as a regular NSL squad member.

Frank Casacchia: right-back, 22, currently sidelined through injury. Gained experience playing in Italy last year.

Mark Brown: left-back, 22, like Catlin a product of the Manly district. Has made the left-back position his own since his debut in 1983.

Berti Mariani: sweeper, 29, signed from Marconi this year. Played for Apia in 1983 on loan from Marconi, but on returning to his original club last season was unable to claim a regular place in the team. A defender who displays class and intelligence rarely seen in Australia.

Arno Bertogna: central defender, 26, signed from Wollongong City in 1983. Previously played for Newcastle KB United and Azzurri in Perth, Western Australia, where he grew up. A former Socceroo squad member, represented NSW against Queensland this season. A highly competent defender who also played in midfield for Apia this year.

Ian Rowden: centre-back, 26, made a comeback to NSL football this year. A product of Western Suburbs juniors, was on Apia's books following their 1979 merger with Wests, then joined Sydney Olympic. Work commitments saw him quit soccer for two seasons prior to his return with Apia this year.

Terry Butler: midfielder and club captain, 32. An institution who has been with the club for more than 20 years and played in the champion team of the mid-1970s. Has the rare ability to take control of a game from his central midfield position.

Tommy McCulloch: midfielder, 21, signed from Marconi for $22,000 this year. Former Australian Youth team captain who was a senior Socceroo on last year's world tour. Hasn't produced his best form in his debut season for Apia but was hindered in mid-season by a knee injury.

Jimmy Hamilton: midfielder, 30, signed from Socttish Second Division club Queen of the South early in the season. Another player who was hindered by injury in his first season with Apia, but has been in good form in the latter half of the competition. Played in Australia with Newcastle KB United in 1982 but then returned to his native Scotland.

Tom Steven: midfielder signed from Manly in mid-season. Played professionally in Scotland before joining NSW State League club North Sydney in 1981. Quickly snapped up by Sydney Croatia, then joined Manly in 1984.

APIA LEICHHARDT'S 1985 NSL SQUAD: *Back row (l to r):* Kerry Caban, Mark Brown, Vince Colagiuri, Bab Catlin, Bob Parks (moved to South Australia). Ian Rowden, Arno Bertogna, Berti Mariani. *Front row:* Frank Casacchia, Tony Morsello, Tony Genovese, Robbie De Ceglie, Terry Butler, Carlo Spina. *Absent:* Tommy McCulloch, Jimmy Hamilton, Glenn Sterrey, Tom Steven, Louis Dounis, Howard Treddinnick, Jim McBride.

Given a free transfer by Manly in mid-season when that club experienced financial difficulties.

Robbie de Ceglie: midfielder or striker, 22, a product of Apia's juniors. A solidly built player who was hit by serious injury in the second half of the 1985 season.

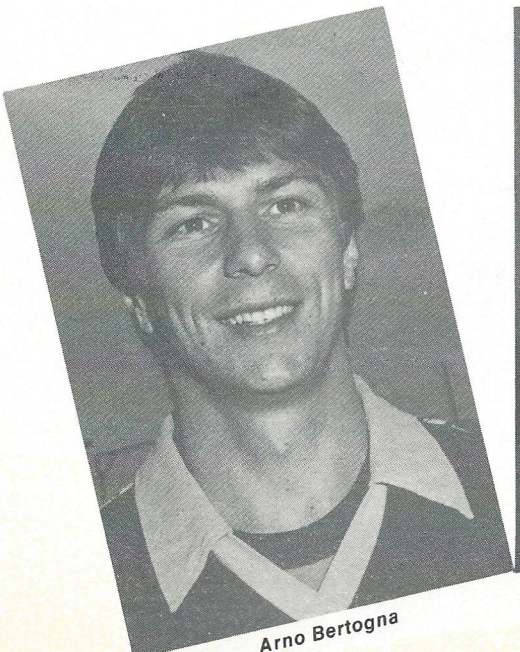
Kerry Caban: striker, 26, signed from Northern NSW club Lake Macquarie in 1984. A strong, bustling striker who gets through a tonne of work. This is only his second National League season previously only having played in the Northern NSW First Division.

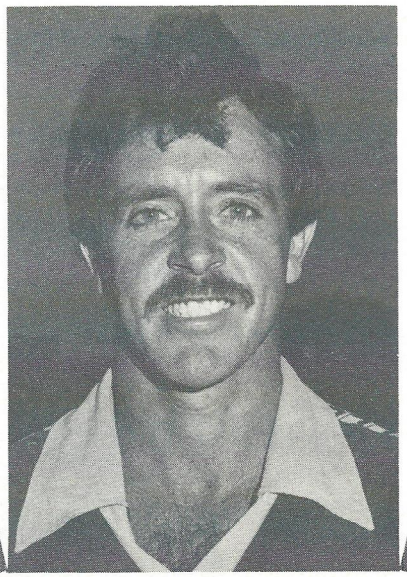
Jim McBride: striker and guest player from Scottish club Stranraer. Played six games for Apia, scoring one goal. Indicated he may return on a permanent basis in 1986.

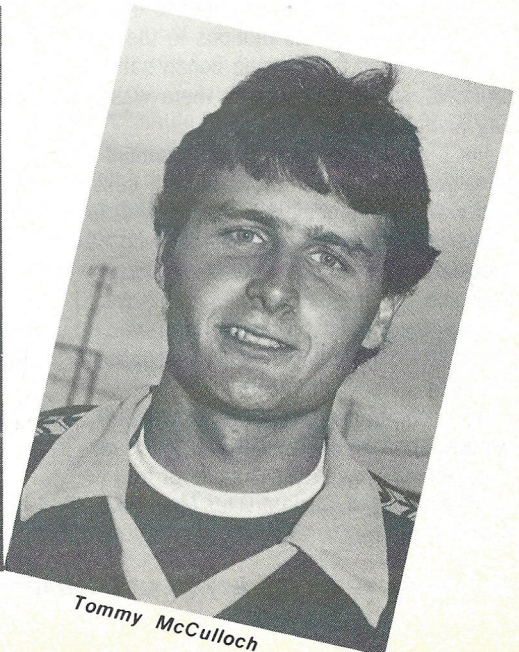
Louis Dounis: striker signed from Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic for $3,000 in mid-season. This well-built young striker was seriously injured in his first NSL match following his transfer from the NSW State League club.

Tony Morsello: left striker, 26, a player who came through the junior ranks with Apia. After a season in State League with Inter Monaro in 1980, returned to Apia to establish himself as a regular NSL player.

Tony Genovese: striker, 20, from Apia juniors. Has always been on the fringe of the NSL team but has a knack of scoring goals as a substitute.


Arno Bertogna


Terry Butler


Tommy McCulloch

IT'S OLYMPIC'S

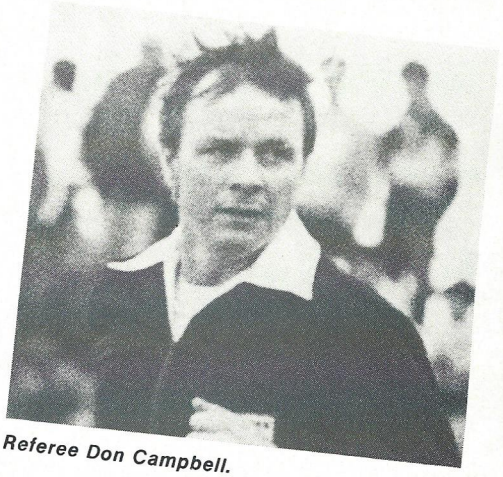
THE NATIONAL CUP-FINAL — ST. GEORGE STADIUM. AUGUST 11

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (Soper 80', Raskopoulos 82') —
PRESTON 1 (Cole 13') — Crowd 6187.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gary Meier, Martyn Rogers, Graham Jennings, Jim Ziras, Alex Lampropoulos, Stuart Johnston, Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Katholos (George Maniotis 87'), Marshall Soper, Simon Ogun, Mark Koussas (Chris Polias 67'). **Coach** Manfred Schaefer.

PRESTON: Phil Traianedes, Graham Heys, George McMillan, Ian Dobson, Robbie Dunn, George Petrov, Zoran Ilioski, Sean Lane, Con Opasinis, Steve Smith, Gary Cole. **Coach** Bill Murray.

Referee Don Campbell.



Referee Don Campbell.

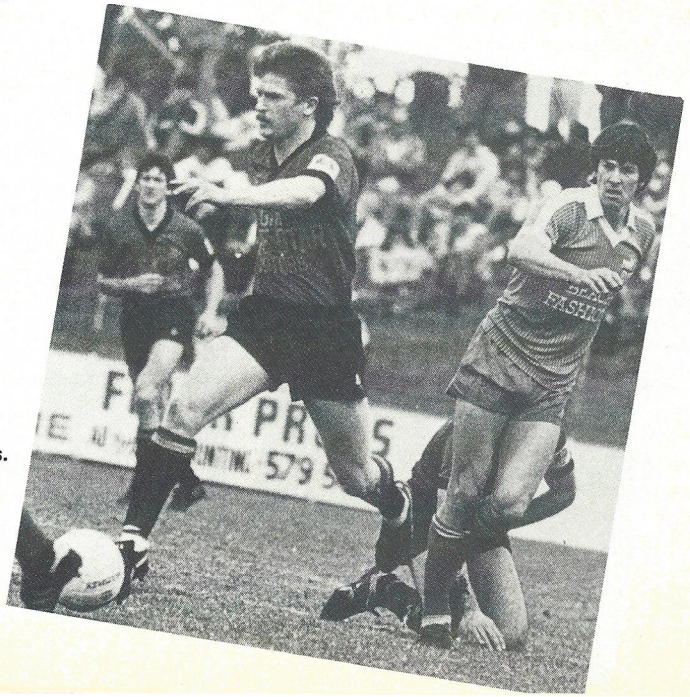
At approximately 4.45 p.m. on Sunday, August 11, the calm of Brighton-le-Sands was shattered by a mighty roar of triumph as six thousand odd delirious Sydney Olympic fans celebrated their heroes' dramatic National Cup win. And well they might yell . . . it was a comeback to rival that of Lazarus himself, as Olympic climbed out of the pit of certain defeat, lifted by a goal out of nowhere from that most enigmatic of all the Socceroos, Marshall Soper, only ten minutes from the end. Two minutes later, and captain Peter Raskopoulos fittingly scored the winner and then exultantly led the whole team in a dash for the wire fence that has thoughtfully been erected round the pitch to prevent the players from invading the spectators.

Then referee Dom Campbell, who had an excellent game, trotted off disapprovingly and pried the players loose from the wire and they returned to the field to go through the motions to the final whistle as the Preston bench sat stunned, wondering whether there was any justice left.

For make no mistake, Preston should have won this game, and won with ease, and was always going to, after Gary Cole had sickened the Olympic faithful with a fabulous goal in the thirteenth minute. Talk about Frank Stapleton . . . this was vintage Cole, circa 1980, the man who personally demolished AEK in Melbourne one wet Sunday afternoon.

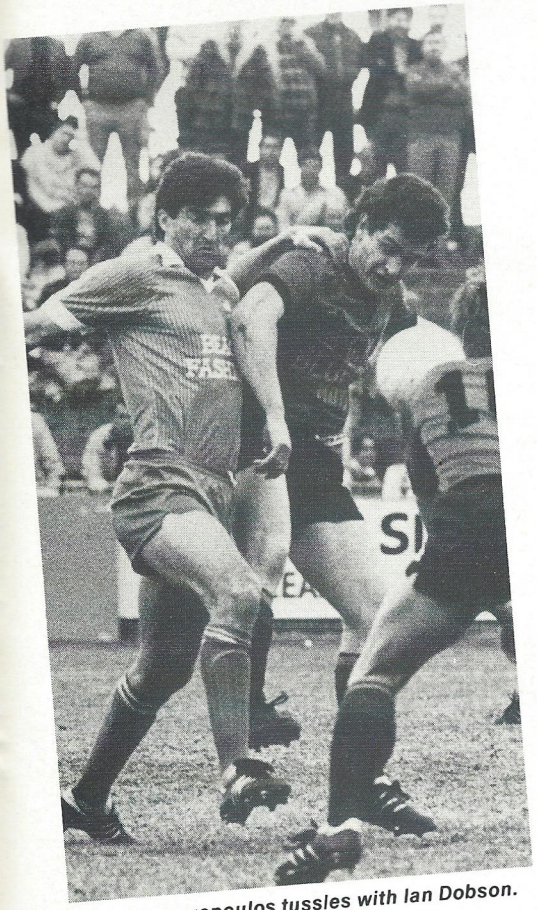
He wrong-footed Jim Ziras, rounded Stuart Johnston like an 18 year old and hit a screamer with the outside of his right foot that went past Gary Meier like Halley's Comet.

Gary Cole scores Preston's goal.



Preston's Graham Heys.

CUP AGAIN!!



Alex Lampropoulos tussles with Ian Dobson.

Captain Peter Raskopoulos with the Cup.

PREVIOUS CUP FINALS

1977	Brisbane City 1 Marconi 1 (Brisbane won on penalties after extra time).
1978	Brisbane City 2 Adelaide City 1.
1979	Adelaide City 3 St. George 2.
1980	Marconi 3 Heidelberg 0 (Replay, after first match ended in 0-0 draw).
1981	Brisbane Lions 3 West Adelaide 2.
1982	Leichhardt 2 Heidelberg United 1.
1983	Sydney Olympic 1 Heidelberg 0 (Sydney). Sydney Olympic 1 Heidelberg 0 (Melbourne) Olympic 2-0 on aggregate.
1984	Newcastle Rosebud 1 Melbourne Croatia 0.

Olympic's defence looked as leaky as a sieve, and Preston kept finding ways through but spent it's chances like a drunken sailor ashore, and when Steve Smith or Gary Cole, Sean Lane or Zoran Ilioski weren't firing high wide and not so handsome, there was the lanky, slightly lumbering figure of Gary Meier in the way.

In retrospect, probably the turning point of the game when Meier somehow rose acrobatically to turn a Smith header over the bar, even as Smith was raising his fists in triumph.

If Olympic had gone two down at that stage, twenty minutes into the game it's doubtful if any of Manfred Schaefer's impassioned half-time harangue would have affected the result at all.

Olympic came out for the second half full of fight and dominated territorially for long periods without making any impact on the uncompromising defence of Robbie Dunn, Ian Dobson and George McMillan, who were scything down everybody in a blue shirt without mercy, whilst Graham Heys was cheekily leaving Marshall Soper for dead and setting off on jaunty runs himself.

But we had wondered earlier about the bandaged knee of Sean Lane, who doesn't spare himself in the tackle, and he noticeably started to limp, and then Ian Dobson got cramp, and it began to look a little ominous, and Preston substitute Billy Piculovski started to warm up.

Piculovski must have been tired at the end of the day, he started warming-up fifteen minutes into the second half and he was still at it as the presentation started.

But coach Bill Murray fiddled while Preston burned and when Dobson started to limp it seemed logical to replace him with the already warmed-up Gordon Flavell, always a bonny man in a fight, and Preston were in a fight by then.

As it was Murray, who spent more time on the touchline than on the bench, never turned to Flavell, even when Schaefer threw on Chris Polias for Mark Koussas like a Las Vegas gambler down to his socks, and then sent on George Maniotis with only three minutes left.

How's it go . . . 'he who hesitates is lost'? . . . Bill should have the old epigram framed and hanging over his bed.

When referee Campbell herded Raskopoulos and his merry lads back on to the pitch for the final obsequies, eight minutes remained, technically, but the game was over and we braced ourselves for the presentation scenes.

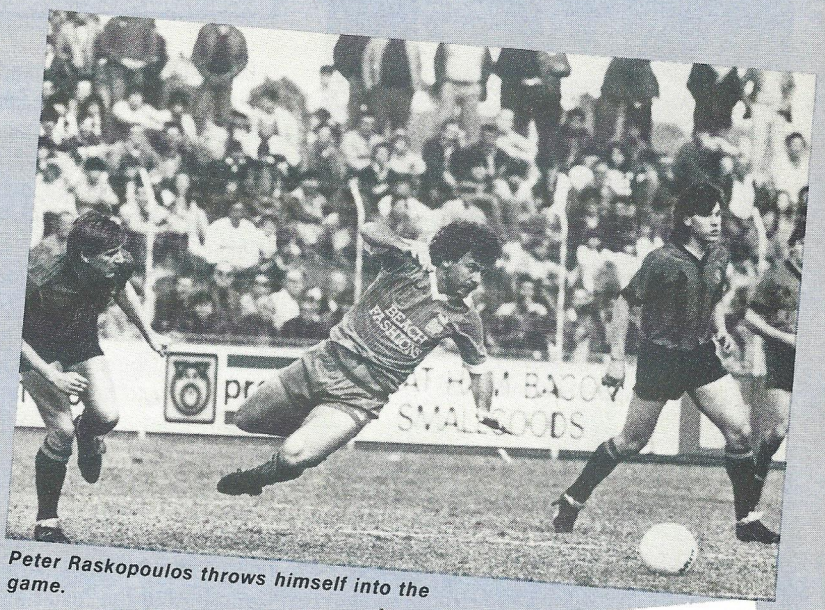
Presentation . . . what presentation? There must have been one because one minute the Cup was in the League Chairman Sam Papasavas' hands and the next minute it was being held by Peter Raskopoulos and a hundred other hands whilst the photographers floundered like beached whales trying to survive and protect their gear at the same time.

The Cup safely in their possession, the Olympic players decided to show it to the few fans who weren't by now on the ground, and accordingly set off on a lap of honour.

But somehow, that changed on the way round, and they entered the home straight with the fans carrying the Cup and players trotting obediently behind — it was that sort of an occasion.

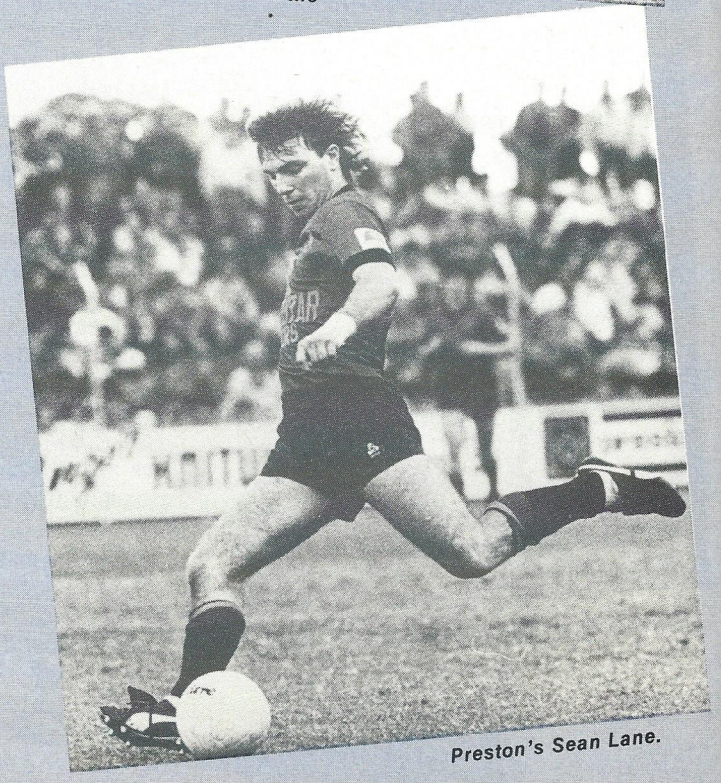
THE CUP WINNERS — SYDNEY OLYMPIC: *Back row (l to r):* Jim Ziras, Alex Lampropoulos, George Haniotis, Gary Meier, Chris Polias, Martyn Rogers, Graham Jennings. *Front row:* Stuart Johnston, Peter Katholos, Peter Raskopoulos, Mark Koussas, Simon Ogun, Marshall Soper.

NSL Chairman Sam Papsavas meeting the Preston team.

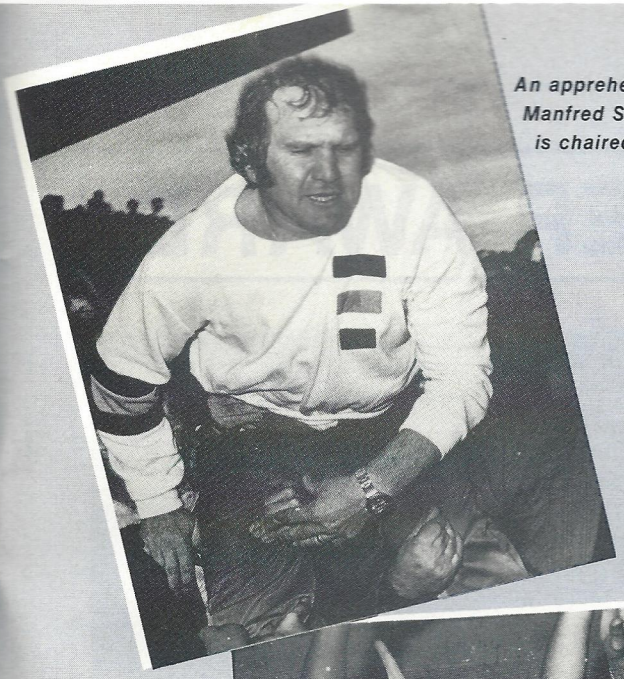


Peter Raskopoulos throws himself into the game.

Alex Lampropoulos robs Sean Lane.



Preston's Sean Lane.



An apprehensive Manfred Schaefer is chaired.

An anxious Preston bench.

Happiness is!

PRESTON: *Back row (l to r):* Con Opasinis, George McMillan, Billy Piculovski, Phil Traianedes, Robbie Dunn, Gary Cole, Ian Dobson, Bill Murray (Coach), John Branov (President). *Front row:* Zoran Ilioski, Gordon Flavell, Graham Heys, George Petrov, Sean Lane, Steve Smith.

SOCCER SNAPPER AWARD

The winner of our Soccer Snapper Award is Diana Stojkoski of Mt. Warrigal, N.S.W. 2528.

Shown is Diana's "Soccer Snapper" of the Wollongong v Sydney Olympic match played at the Wollongong Showground, which Sydney Olympic won 2-1.

Diana has won for herself the prize shown below, and will receive this kit courtesy of Mitre, Power Boots and Inter.

WIN A SOCCEROO-AUTOGRAPHED MITRE BALL

Write on the back of an envelope the names of the goal scorers for Australia in the game against Red Star Belgrade played at Olympic Park, Melbourne on August 11, 1985.

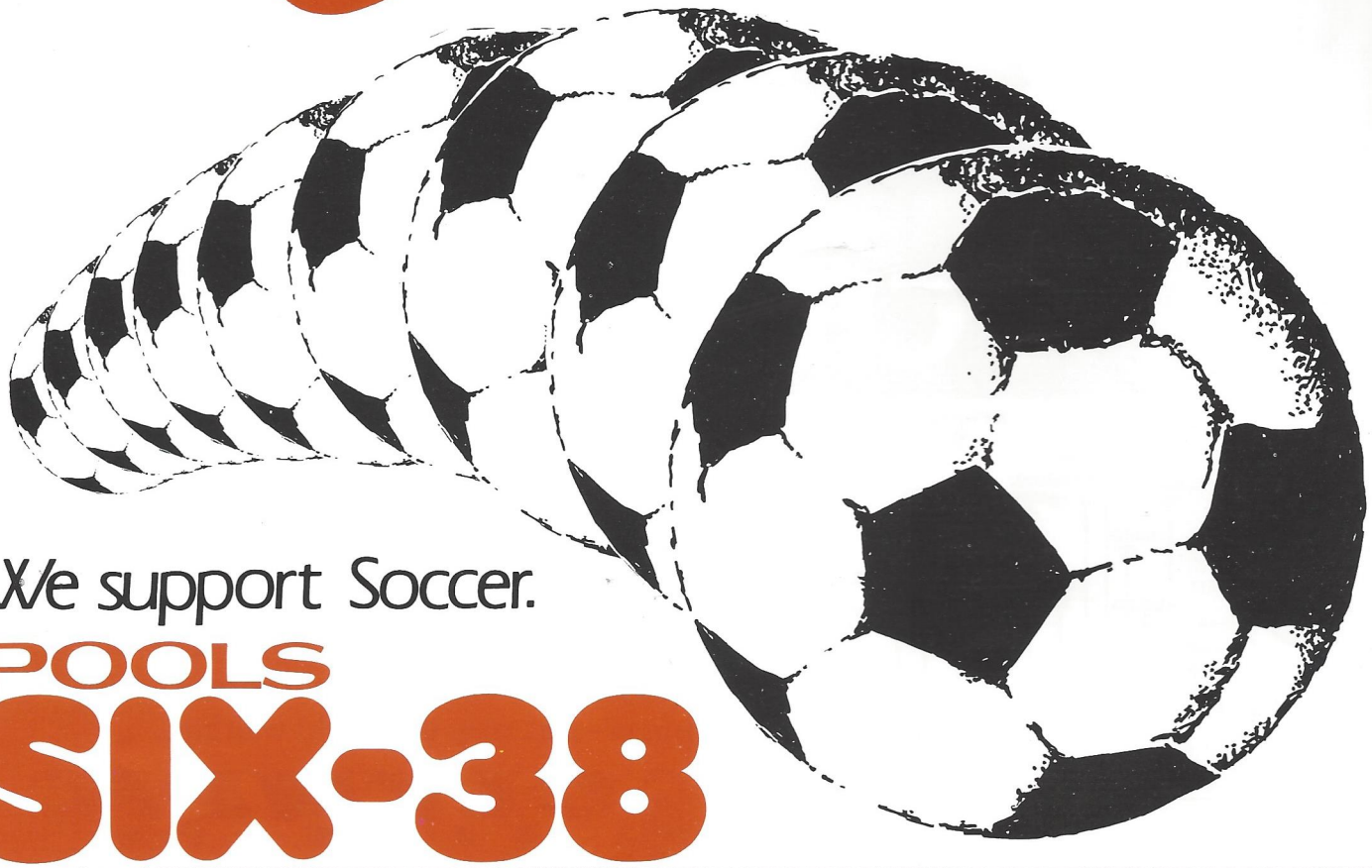
Include your name and address.

Send your entry(ies) to:

Mitre Quiz,
P.O. Box 44,
Canterbury, N.S.W. 2193.

Competition Closes Tuesday, September 10th, 1985

PLAY THE WINNERS GAME!



We support Soccer.

POOLS

SIX-38

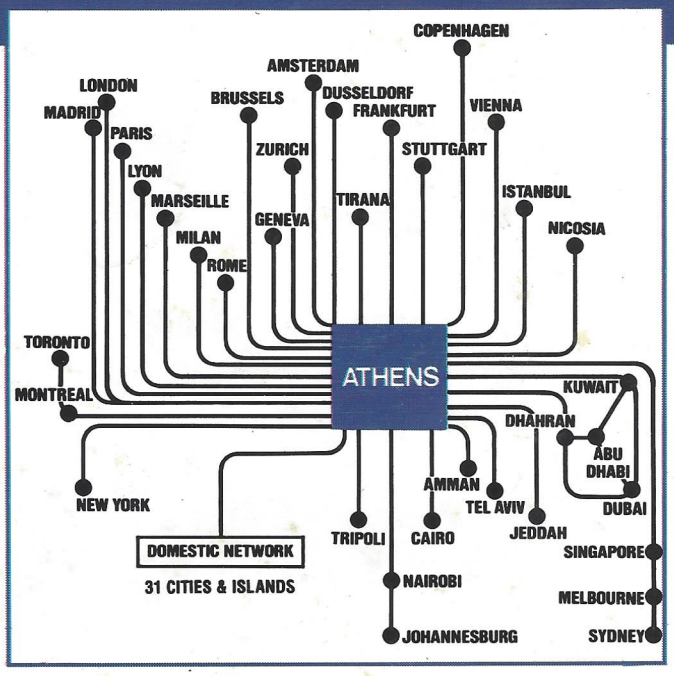
JACKPOTS UNTIL SOMEBODY WINS

(Incorporated in Victoria)

Agents throughout Australia.

FLY OLYMPIC TO ATHENS AND THE WORLD

A WISE CHOICE



Every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon, Olympic Airways' pampered passengers fly by superb 747's to Athens.

Olympic can then fly you from Athens onward to London, the rest of Europe and the world! But you'd be wiser to stopover on a Greek island – and keep the world waiting.

OLYMPIC AIRWAYS

The International Airline of Greece

SYDNEY – Tel: (02) 241 1751. (008) 22 1663.
MELB – Tel: (03) 602 5400. (008) 33 1448.